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SUPERMAN'S

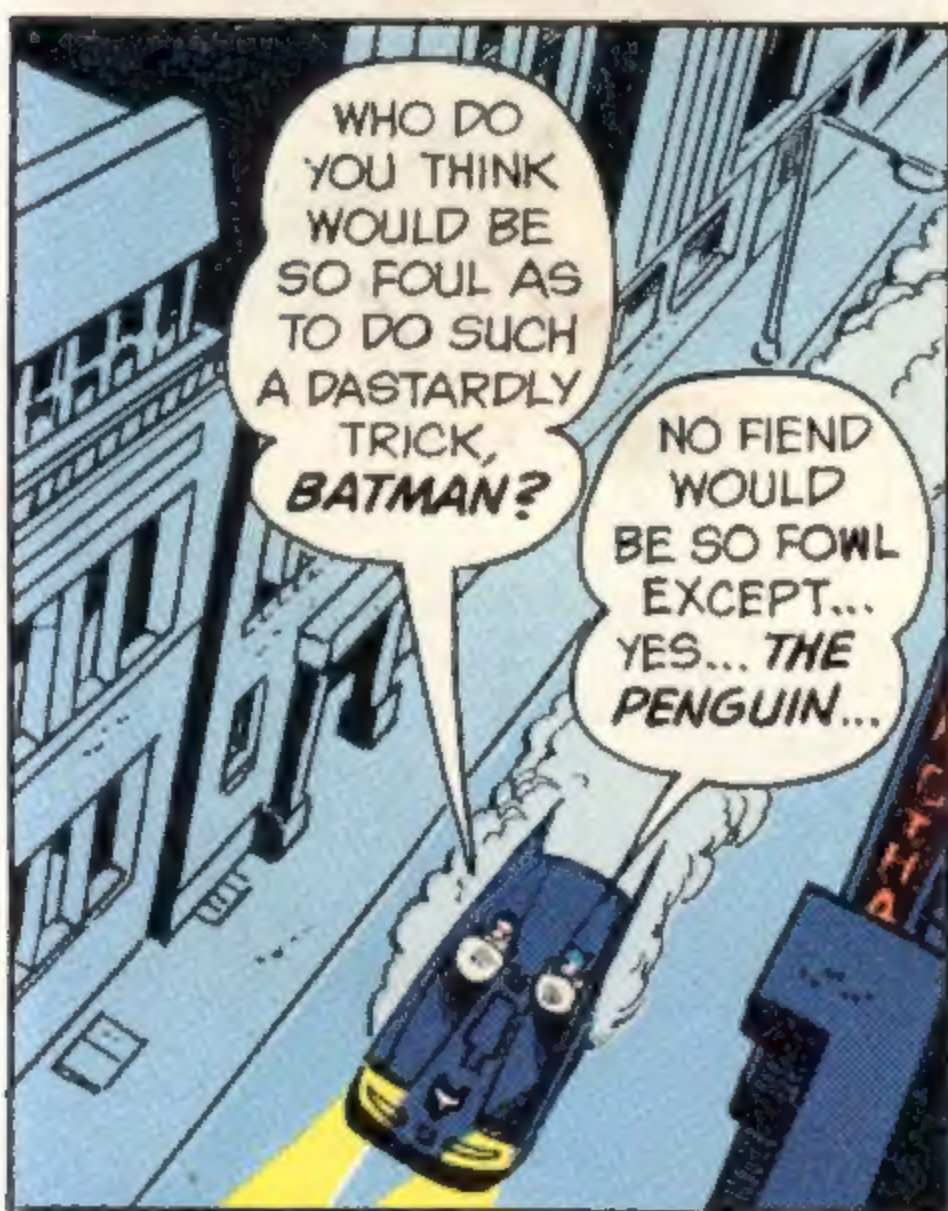
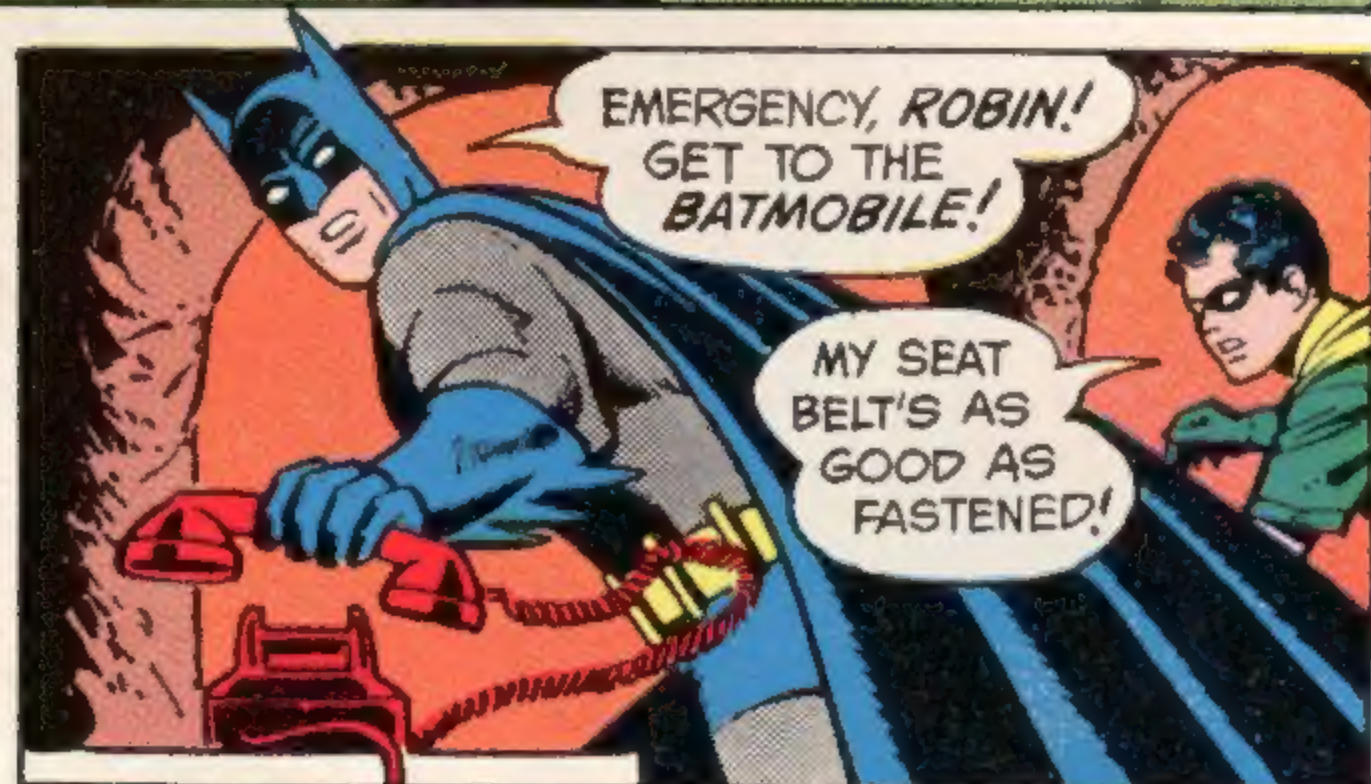
ACTION COMICS

SUPERMAN
RUNS INTO REAL
INTERFERENCE
FROM HIS NEWEST,
MOST FANTASTIC
FOE--
BLACKROCK!

BAT MAN[®]

AND

TWINKIELESS[®] GOTHAM CITY



APRIL, 1976 75 Cents

Metropolitan

GALAXY COMMUNICATIONS

magazine

SPECIAL ISSUE!
FULL-COLOR SECTION
DEVOTED TO...

SUPERMAN



STORY AFTER AMAZING STORY OF THE MAN OF STEEL IS TOLD TO THE WORLD BY GALAXY COMMUNICATIONS REPORTERS -- OF WHOM CLARK (SUPERMAN) KENT IS ONE! BUT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A RIVAL HERO SUDDENLY APPEARED AND SERVED AS A NEWS GOLDMINE FOR ANOTHER COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK?... IT IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A POWERFUL MAN DEMANDS...

"MAKE ME A SUPER-HERO!"

STORY BY: ELLIOT S. MAGGIN ART BY: CURT SWAN & TEX BLAISDELL

EDITING BY: JULIUS SCHWARTZ

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LISTEN TO THIS COVER CAPTION, FRANK...

YES, MR. TANNER!

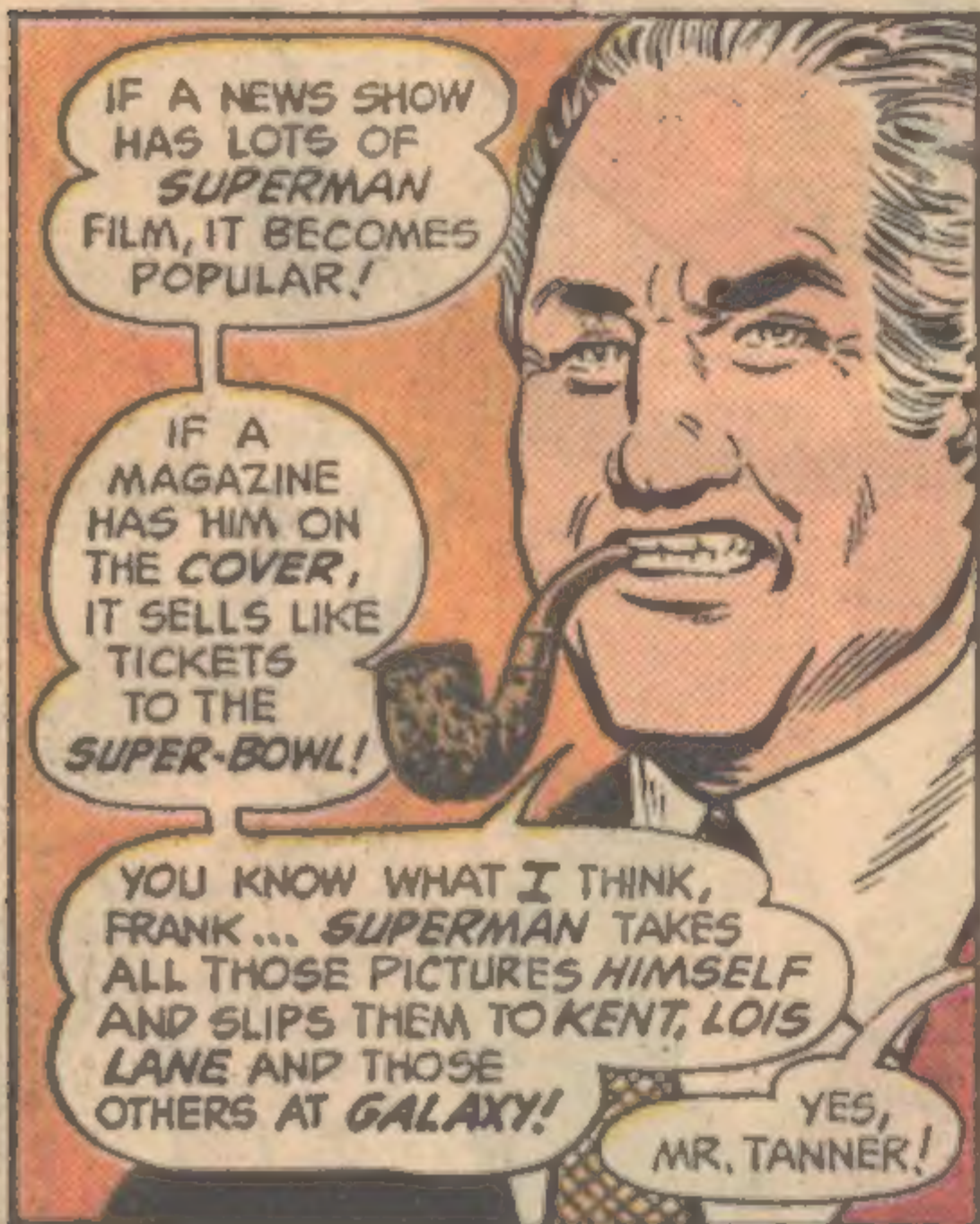
"CRASHING THROUGH A PROP FOR A CLOWN ACT SATIRIZING SUPERMAN AT THE BIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH..."



"...THE MAN OF STEEL SAVES A TERRIFIED CIRCUS CROWD FROM DISASTER BY CAPTURING TWO ESCAPED LIONS!"

SAYS HERE THAT WGBS REPORTER CLARK KENT JUST HAPPENED TO BE AT THE CIRCUS THAT DAY!

YES, I HEARD YOUR EMPHASIS ON "HAPPENED", MR. TANNER!



IF A NEWS SHOW HAS LOTS OF SUPERMAN FILM, IT BECOMES POPULAR!

IF A MAGAZINE HAS HIM ON THE COVER, IT SELLS LIKE TICKETS TO THE SUPER-BOWL!

YOU KNOW WHAT I THINK, FRANK... SUPERMAN TAKES ALL THOSE PICTURES HIMSELF AND SLIPS THEM TO KENT, LOIS LANE AND THOSE OTHERS AT GALAXY!

YES, MR. TANNER!



WELL, I JUST HAD AN IDEA! TELL THAT FELLOW IN THE LAB-- WHATSIS NAME?

PETER SILVERSTONE--

--I'M ON MY WAY DOWN TO SEE HIM!

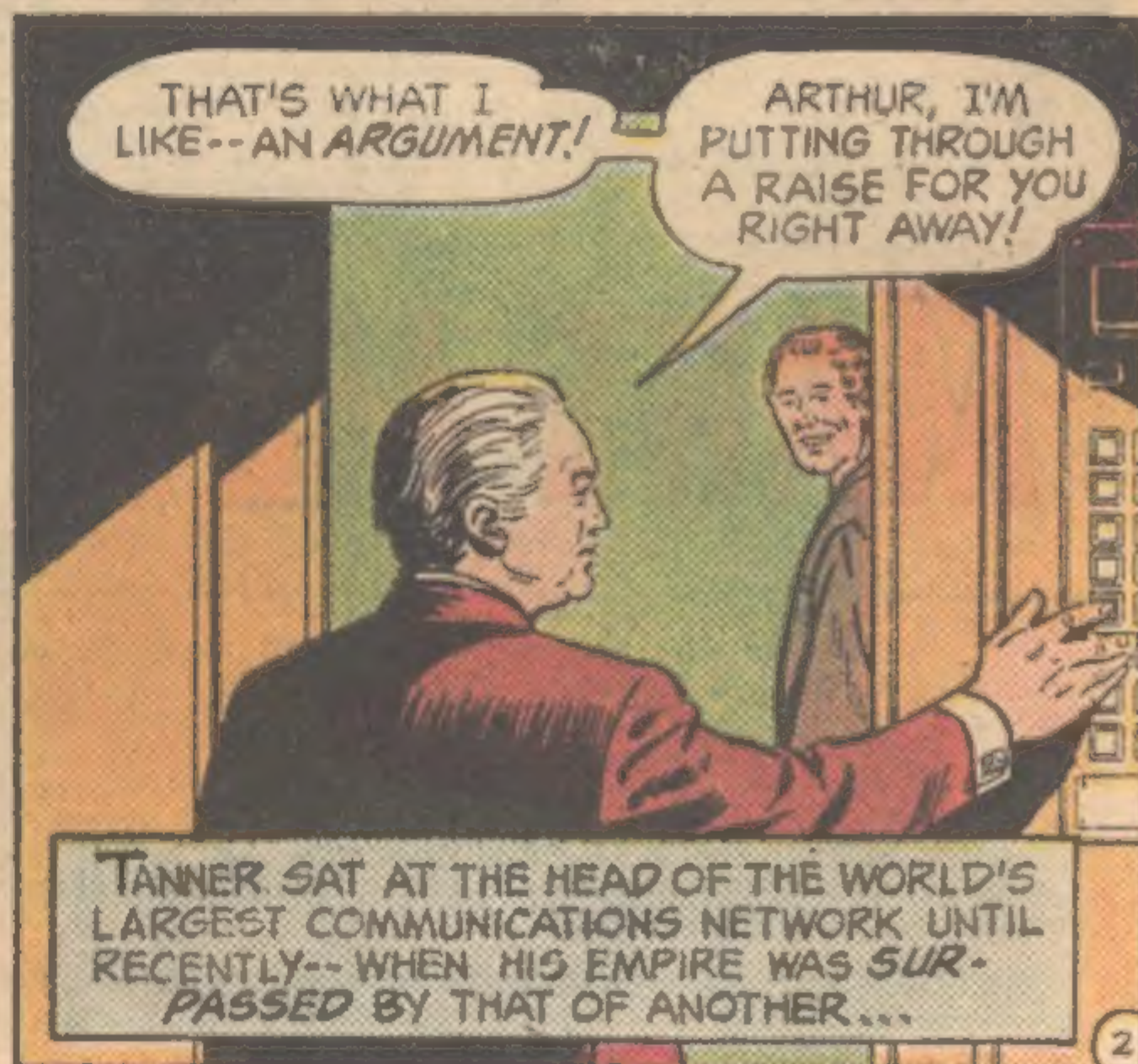
YES, SIR!



THE IMPRESSIVE MAN WITH THE PIPE IS SAMUEL TANNER-- PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED BROADCASTING COMPANY...

ARTHUR-- I'VE GOT NO USE FOR SIMPERING YES-MEN! TELL THAT CRACKPOT FRANK TO CLEAR OUT HIS DESK!

BUT FRANK DOES HIS JOB WELL--AND HE'S LOYAL TO THE COMPANY...



THAT'S WHAT I LIKE--AN ARGUMENT!

ARTHUR, I'M PUTTING THROUGH A RAISE FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY!

TANNER SAT AT THE HEAD OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK UNTIL RECENTLY-- WHEN HIS EMPIRE WAS SURPASSED BY THAT OF ANOTHER...

...MORGAN EDGE, PRESIDENT OF THE FAR-FLUNG GALAXY COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION...

KENT-- GET UP TO MY OFFICE ON THE DOUBLE!

BUT I'M WORKING ON TONIGHT'S TELECAST--

I DON'T WANT ANY "BUTS" EXCEPT YOUR BUTT-- UP HERE!

I'LL GET TO THE POINT, KENT! I'M PROMOTING YOU TO ASSOCIATE PRODUCER OF ALL OUR NEWS PROGRAMS-- EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!

BUT, MR. EDGE-- I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE, I'D RATHER NOT....!

YOU ALSO TOLD ME YOU DIDN'T WANT TO BE SWITCHED TO TELEVISION FROM THE DAILY PLANET-- AND NOW YOU'RE THE #1 TV-NEWSMAN IN METROPOLIS!

BESIDES, WE HAVE AN UNPLEASANT SITUATION BREWING YOU CAN HANDLE--!

OF OUR TOP SIX NEWSPEOPLE, THREE HAVE RECENTLY SIGNED CONTRACTS WITH UBC!

INCLUDING LOLA BAR--

CRACK!

DON'T EVER MENTION THAT NAME TO ME AGAIN!

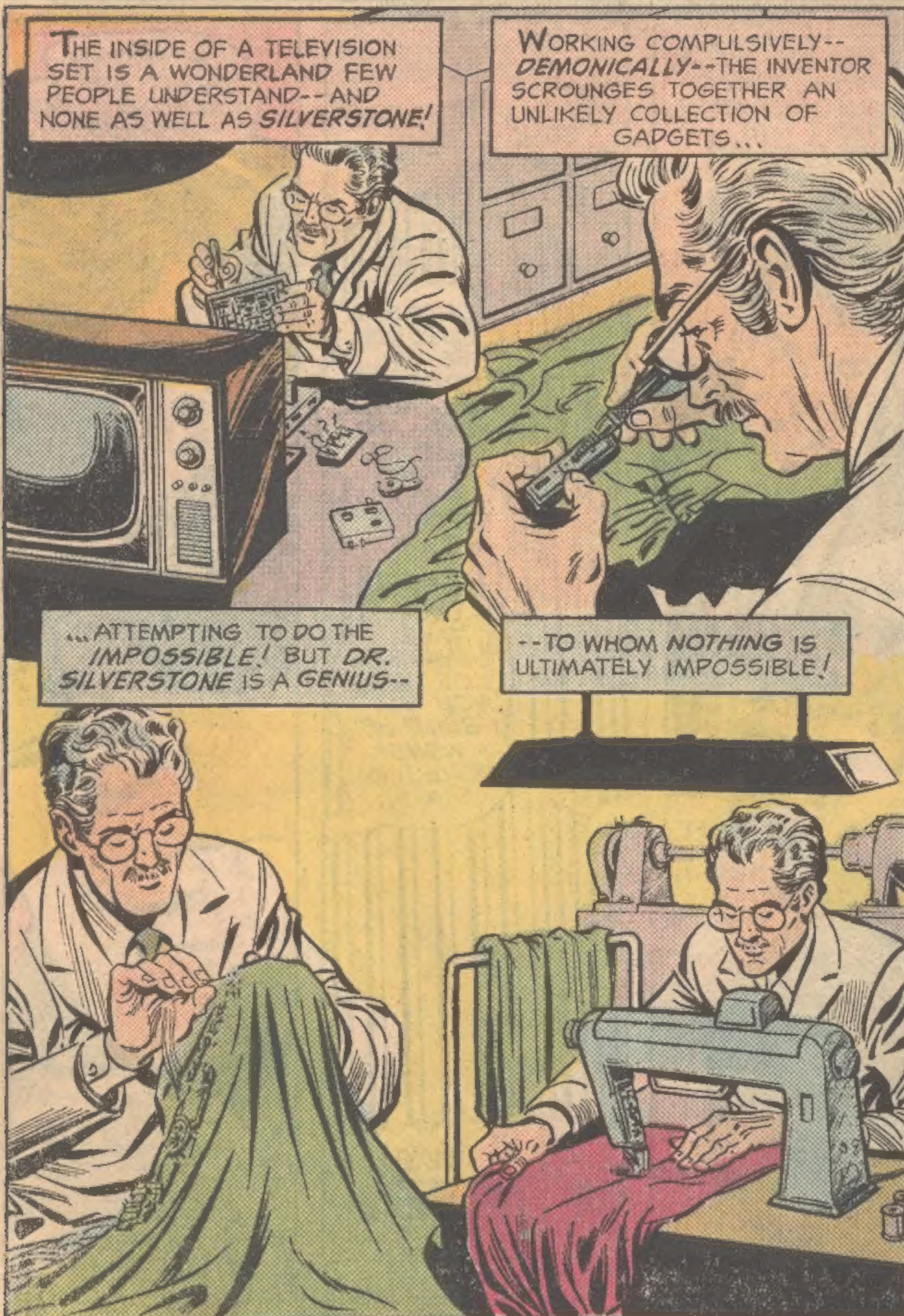
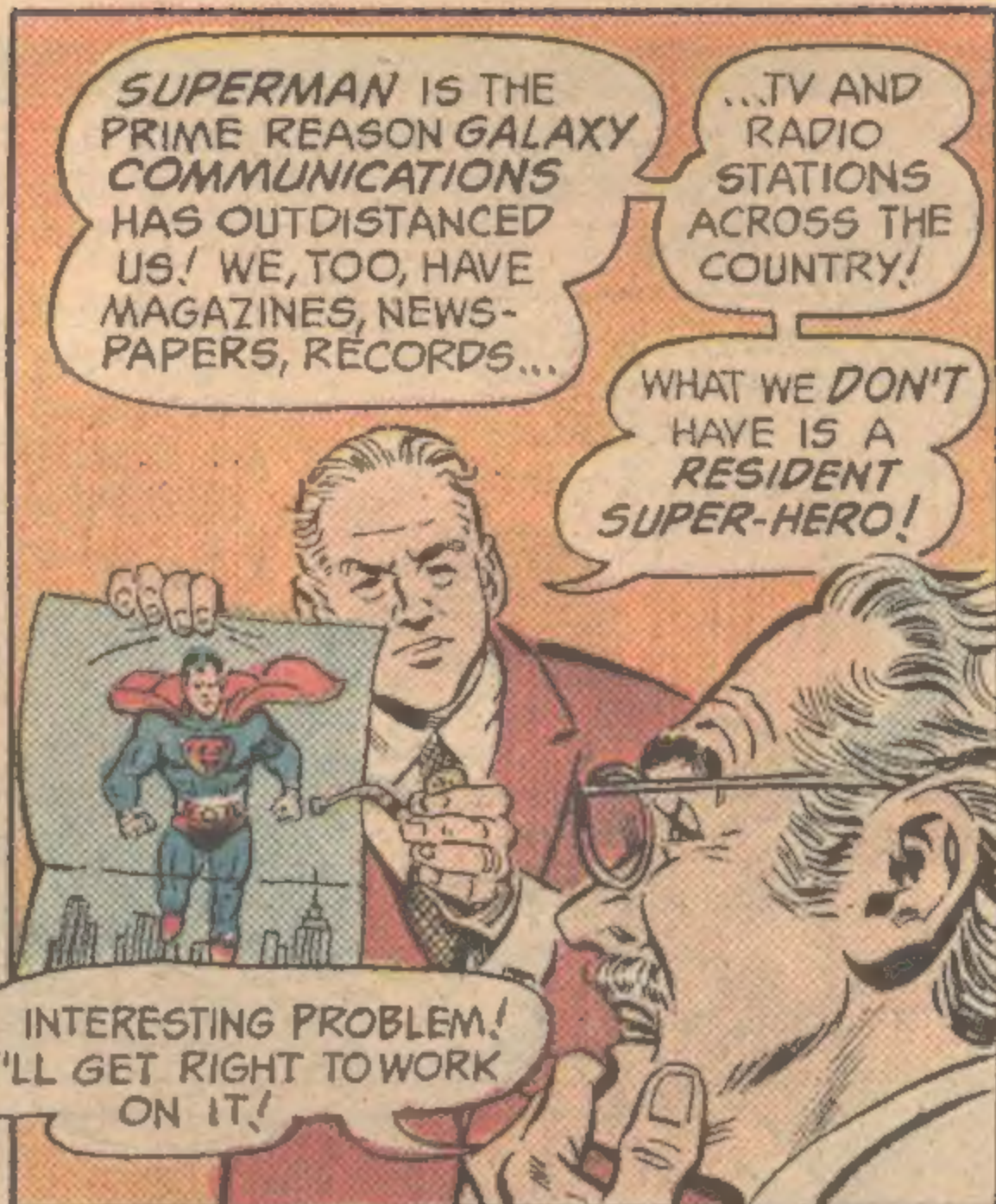
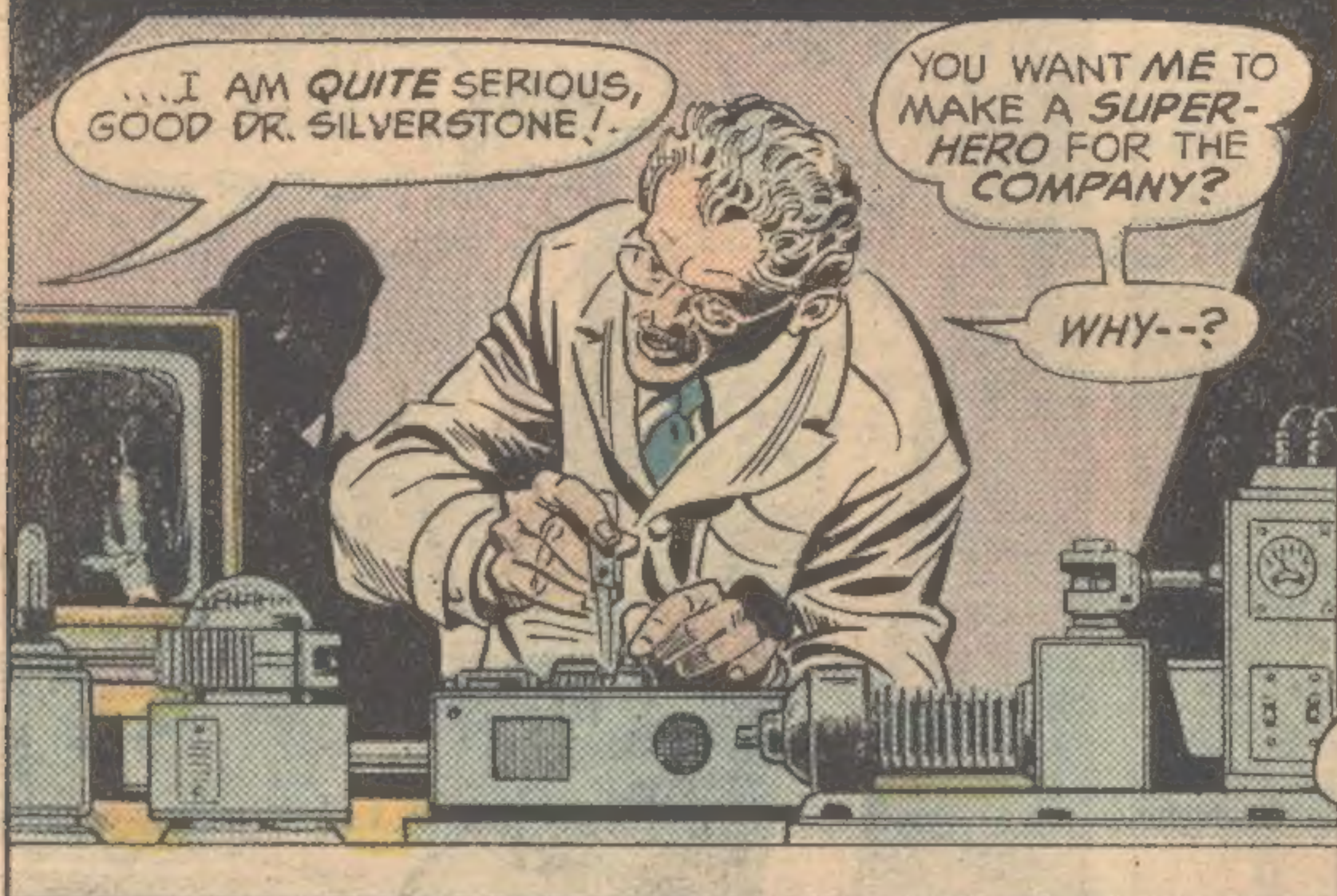
OF COURSE, YOU'LL STILL BE OUR ANCHORMAN-NEWSCASTER, KENT-- AND SINCE YOU KNOW EVERY REPORTER IN TOWN...

...WE'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT! YOU WILL BUILD UP WGBS' REPORTING STAFF...

...BY FINDING TALENT AND KEEPING IT HERE! --DISMISSED!

THIS PROMOTION CAN ONLY MAKE IT TOUGHER FOR ME TO BECOME SUPERMAN IN AN EMERGENCY-- BUT I'LL MANAGE....!

PETER SILVERSTONE OF UBC HELPED INVENT COLOR-TV, THE LONG-PLAYING RECORD, AND TELSTAR--BUT WATCH NOW AS...



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Our part was developing this belt & wallet kit, it has everything!

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EXPIRES JUNE 30, 1976

WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF

Every now and then, do you get this uncontrollable urge to bite into something that's really got some meat in it?

Are you tired of sugar-sweet snacks that dissolve in your mouth, and crunchy snacks that you can hardly tell you ate, and all the other boring stuff you have to put up with, every day?

Well, take heart. And, while you're at it, take Slim Jim along in your pocket.

Slim Jim is a chewy, all-meat snack that comes in five very un-boring flavors. Mild, spicy, salami, bacon, and pizza. And you can find it at the grocery store. Or at a lot of the places where you've been getting those sissy snacks.

You might want to carry a few extra ones, too. Then, if you meet a werewolf, you can give him something to sink his teeth into instead of you.



A LITTLE LESS THAN A MEAL. A LITTLE MORE THAN A SNACK.

If you've ever said...

"There must be a better way to earn a living..."

one of our free Career Booklets may provide the opportunity you've been looking for.

It happens to all of us, sooner or later. No matter what kind of job we have.

One day, it suddenly strikes home that we're going to have to work for a living the rest of our lives. And most of us are horrified at the thought of forever being locked into the jobs we now hold.

"Surely," we tell ourselves, "there must be a way to get more satisfaction out of working. Surely, there must be a way to find a job that's more rewarding."

"Surely," in other words, "there must be a better way to earn a living!"

If you have been thinking these same thoughts, you'll find one of our free Career Booklets very helpful at this time. We invite you to send for one.

Your free booklet will describe the opportunities you might expect in the career field of your choice. It will also explain how ICS can train you for this new career field...right in your own home...in your spare time.

Please bear in mind, as you check off your career choice on the coupon, that ICS has a long and distinguished record. Since 1890 millions of men and women have turned to ICS for career training.

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ICS programs are approved for Veterans' training under the new GI Bill.

No one can promise success, but if you want more—more security, more day-to-day satisfaction and more future—our free Career Booklet and free Demonstration Lesson can help you get started in the right direction. Complete and mail the coupon today. There's no obligation.

Remember, it's your life. You should make the most of it.

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ICS International Correspondence Schools
Scranton, Pennsylvania 18515

XA903N

Please mail me the Free Career Booklet and Free Demonstration Lesson for the field I have checked below. I understand I am under no obligation.

- ☐ Electrician (Construction)
- ☐ Electrician (Maintenance)
- ☐ Civil Engineering
- ☐ Mechanical Engineering
- ☐ Chemical Engineering
- ☐ Electrical Engineering
- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Drafting
- ☐ Electronics Technician
- ☐ TV Service & Repair
- ☐ Automotive Mechanics
- ☐ Diesel Mechanics

- ☐ Airline/Travel
- ☐ Surveying & Mapping
- ☐ Air Conditioning & Refrig.
- ☐ Business Management
- ☐ Interior Decorating
- ☐ Restaurant/Club Mgt.
- ☐ Income Tax
- ☐ Motel/Hotel Management
- ☐ Appliance Servicing & Repair
- ☐ ICS High School Diploma
- ☐ High School Equivalency

College Degree Programs:
Associate in Specialized Business in
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☐ Business Management

Associate in Specialized Technology in
☐ Civil Engineering
☐ Mechanical Engineering
☐ Chemical Engineering
☐ Electrical Engineering

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Age

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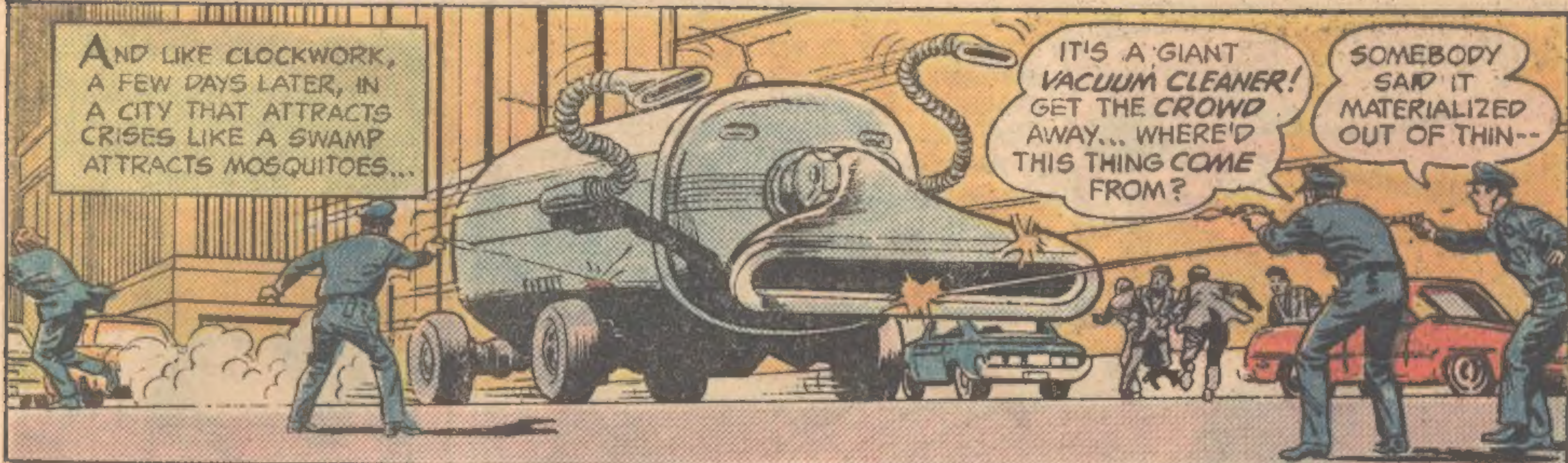
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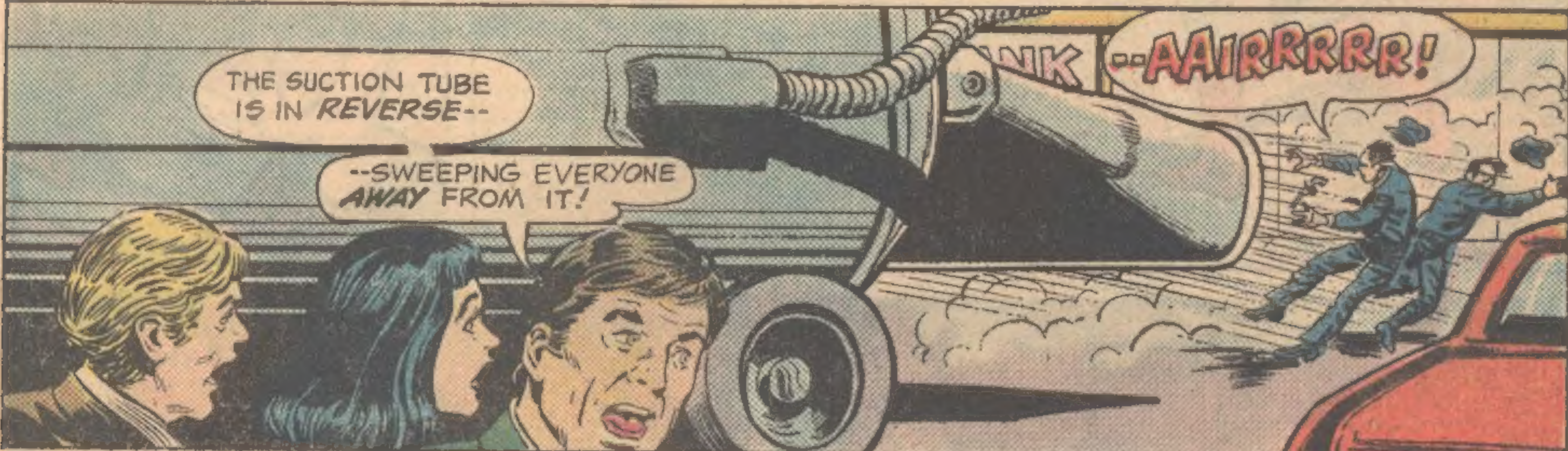
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AND LIKE CLOCKWORK,
A FEW DAYS LATER, IN
A CITY THAT ATTRACTS
CRISES LIKE A SWAMP
ATTRACTS MOSQUITOES...

IT'S A GIANT
VACUUM CLEANER!
GET THE CROWD
AWAY... WHERE'D
THIS THING COME
FROM?

SOMEBODY
SAID IT
MATERIALIZED
OUT OF THIN--



THE SUCTION TUBE
IS IN REVERSE--

--SWEEPING EVERYONE
AWAY FROM IT!

ANK --AAIRRRRR!



RELAX--IT'S
SUPERMAN!

LOOK!
WHO'S THAT
FREAK
DRIBBLING
OUT OF THE
MACHINE'S
AERIAL?!



WE'LL SEE ABOUT
DISARMING HIM--
AND HIS WEIRD
GIZMO!

BANK

THE
FOLLOWING
HERO IS BROUGHT
TO YOU IN
LIVING COLOR--



OOOF!!
SUPERMAN,
YOU IDIOT...
YOU'RE MESSING
UP MY
PREMIERE!

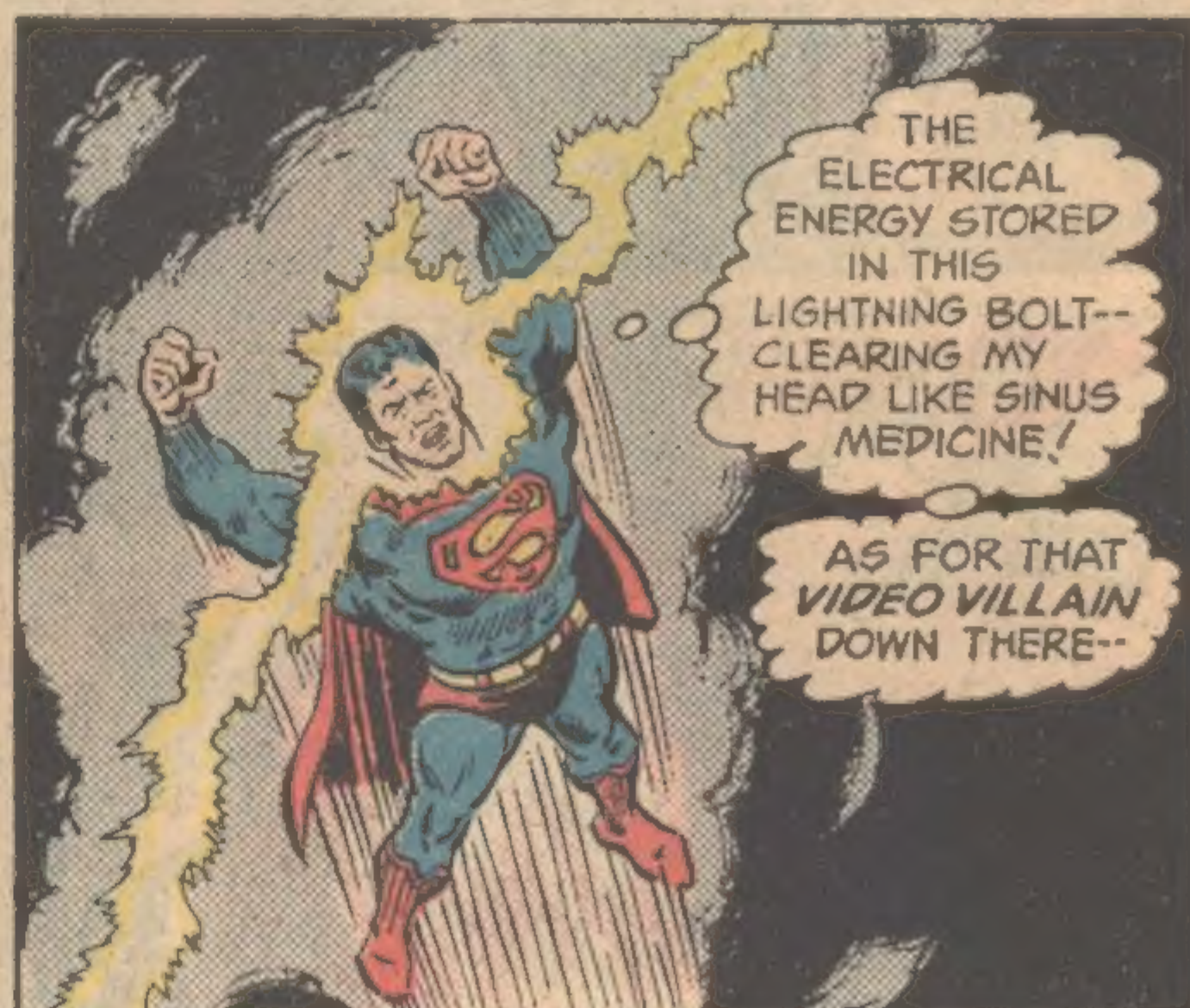
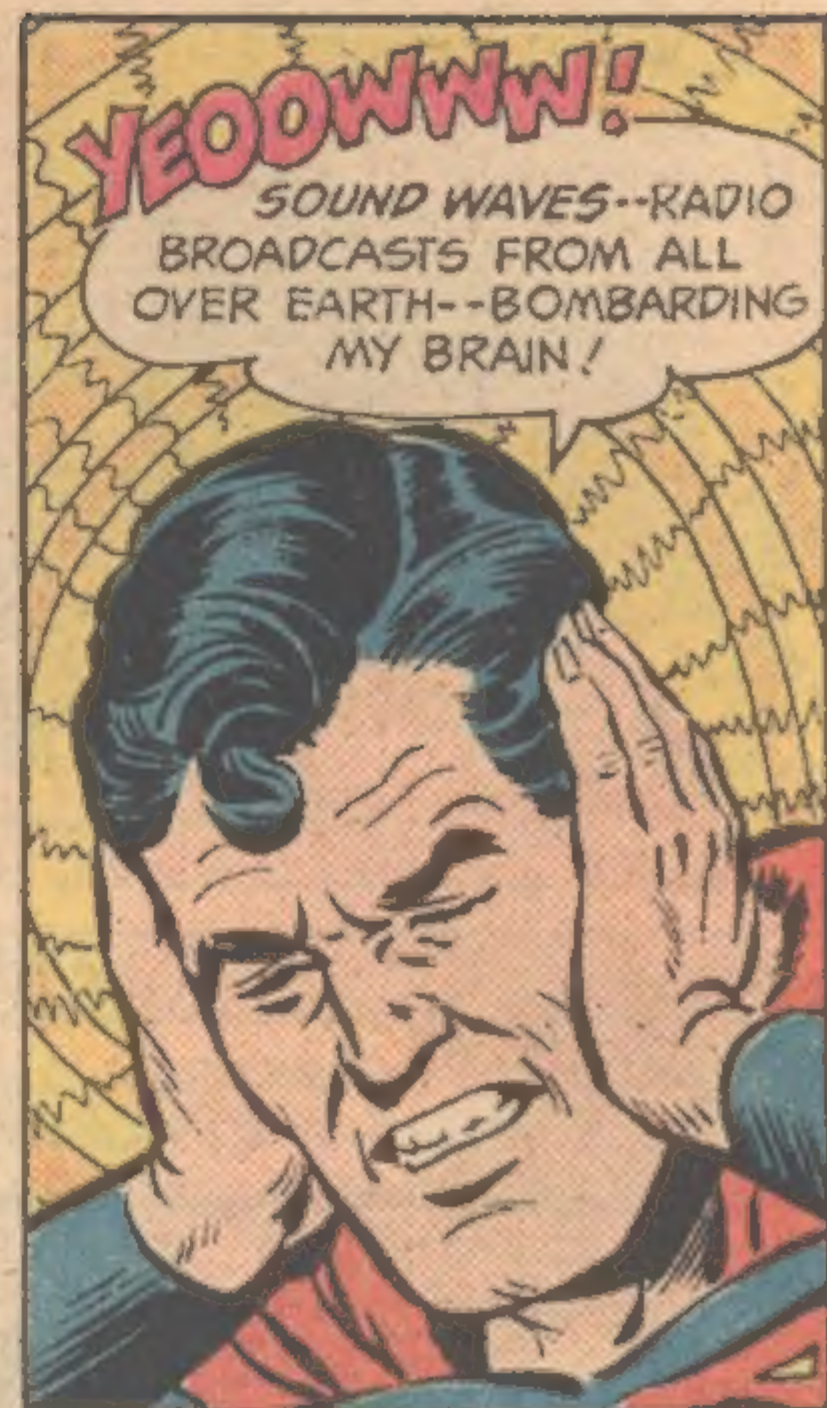
I WAS
HERE FIRST--
SO I GET
TO STOP
THAT BANK-
LOOTING
MACHINE!

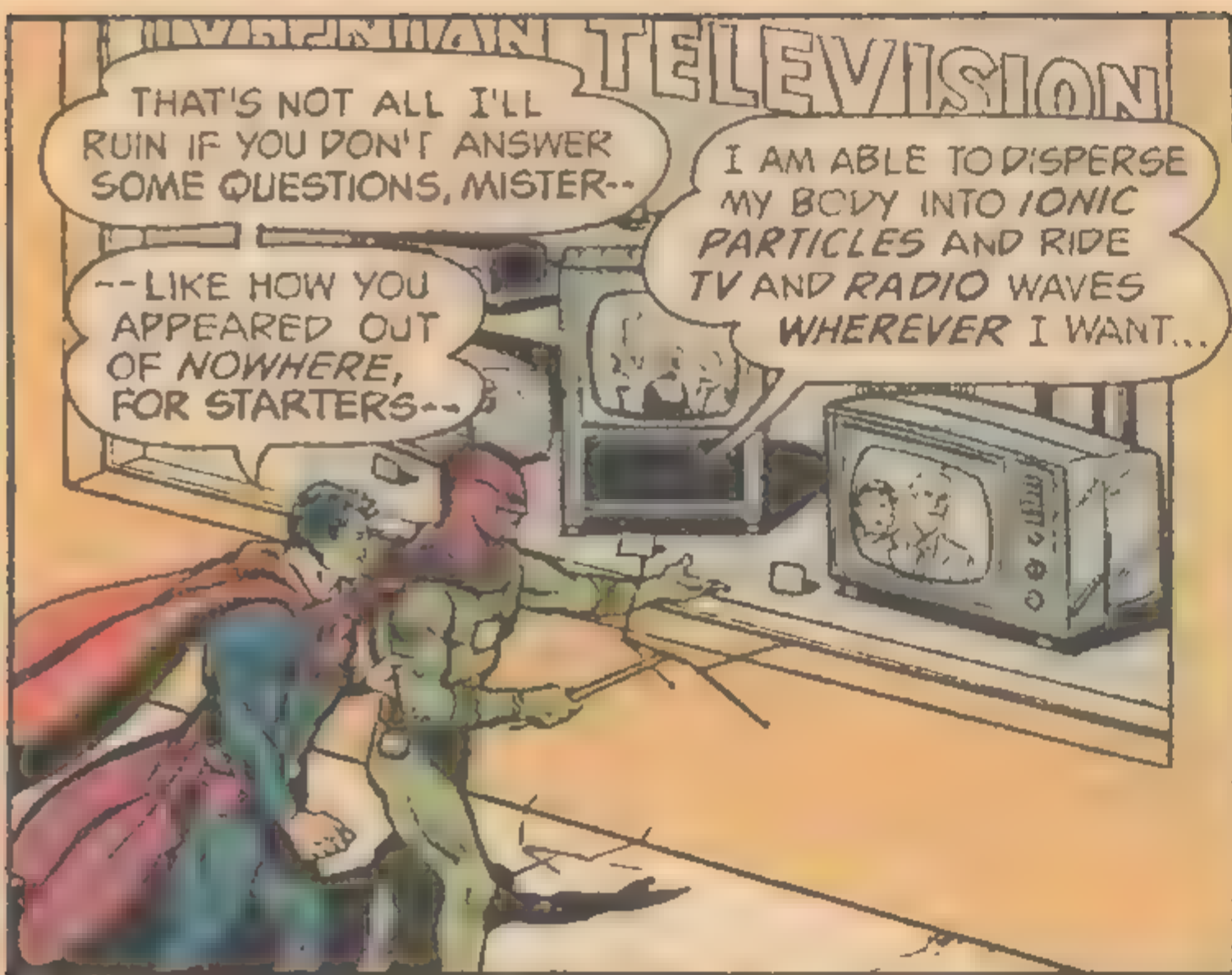


I'M THE
HERO IN THIS
SCENE, SUPES,
BABY... AND
YOU'RE
DRAGGING
THE PLOT!

URGFHH!!
THAT'S YOUR
STORY!

YES, THIS IS
MY STORY... AND
I LOVE IT!

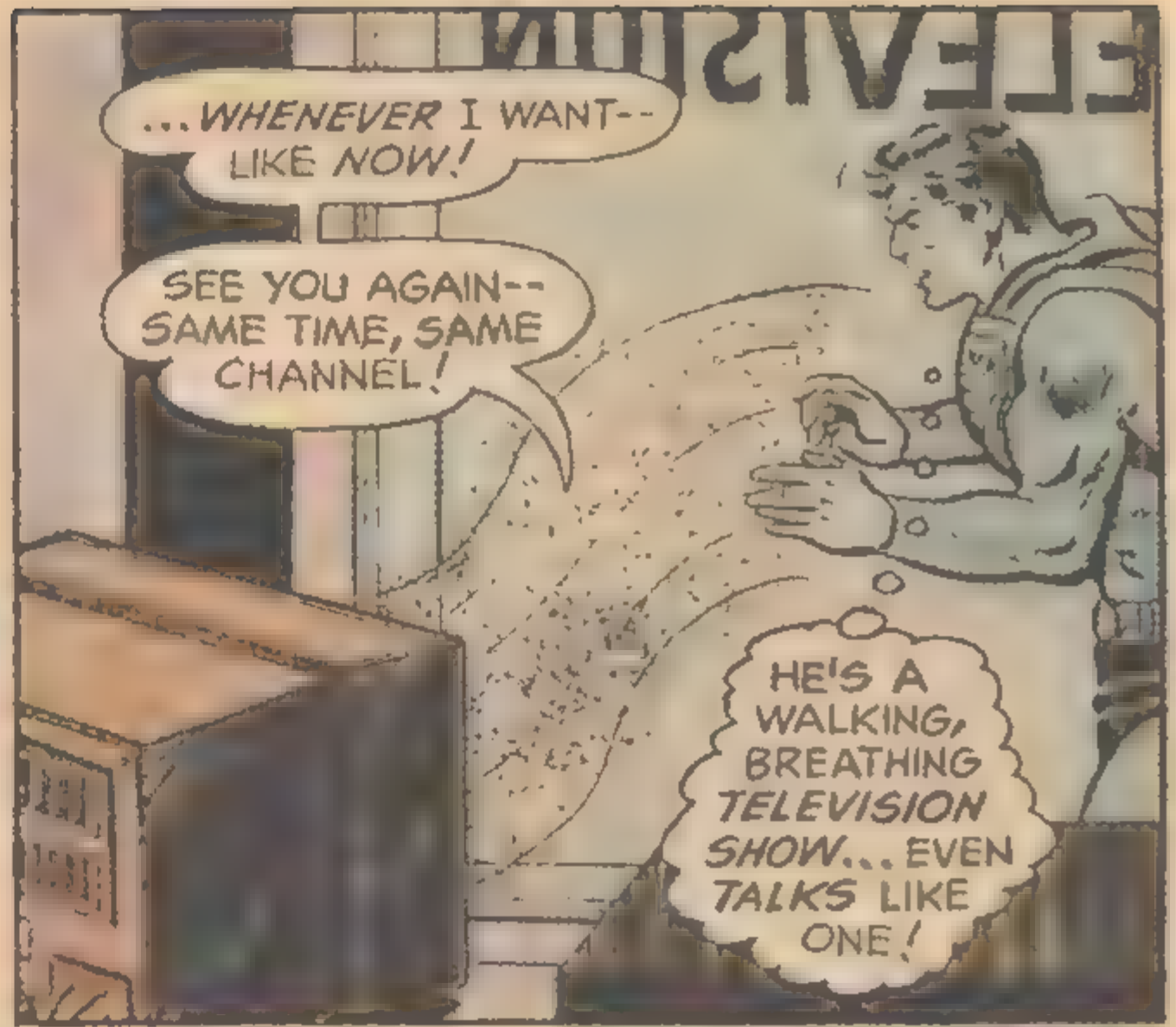




THAT'S NOT ALL I'LL
RUIN IF YOU DON'T ANSWER
SOME QUESTIONS, MISTER--

--LIKE HOW YOU
APPEARED OUT
OF NOWHERE,
FOR STARTERS--

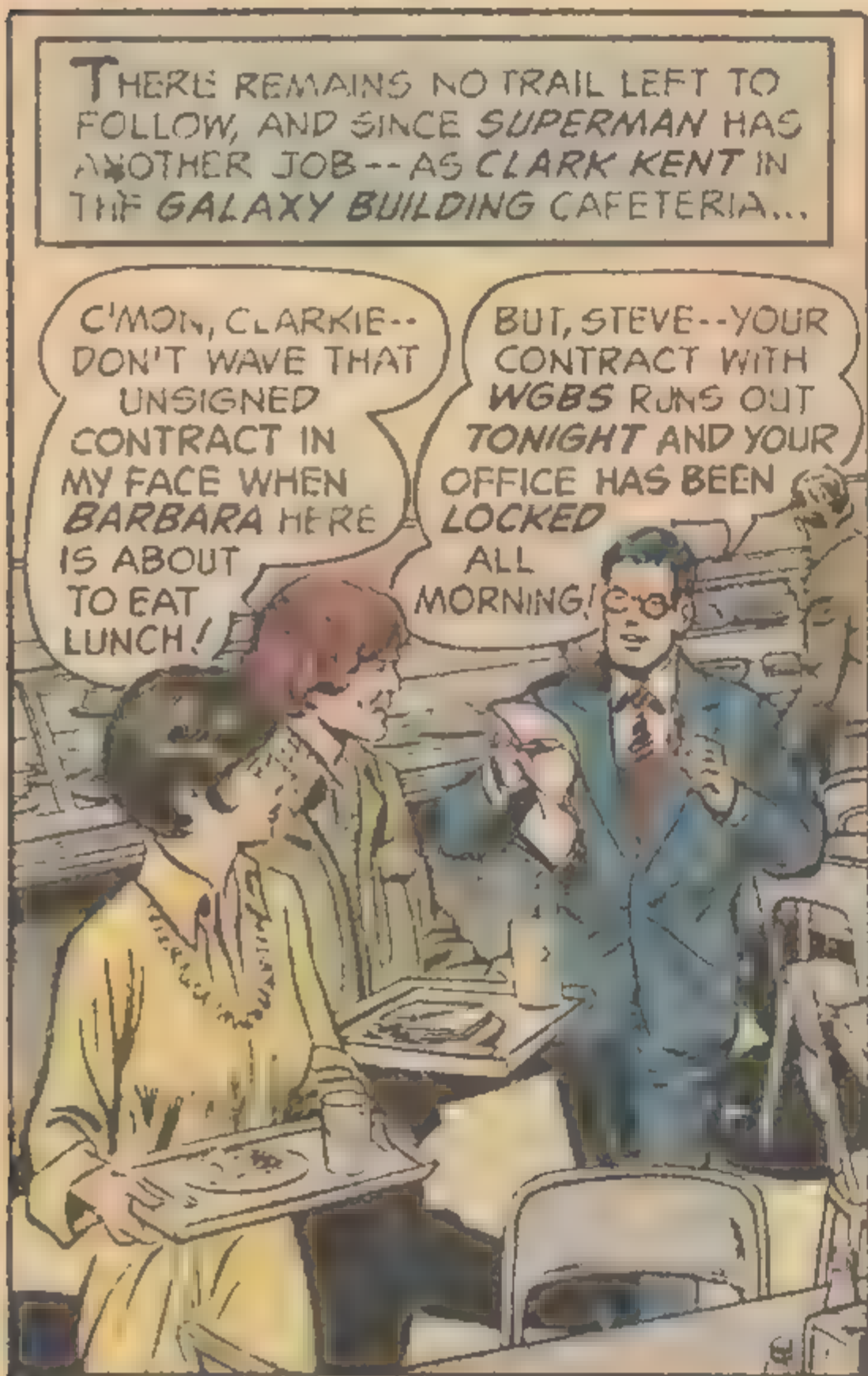
I AM ABLE TO DISPERSE
MY BODY INTO IONIC
PARTICLES AND RIDE
TV AND RADIO WAVES
WHEREVER I WANT...



...WHENEVER I WANT--
LIKE NOW!

SEE YOU AGAIN--
SAME TIME, SAME
CHANNEL!

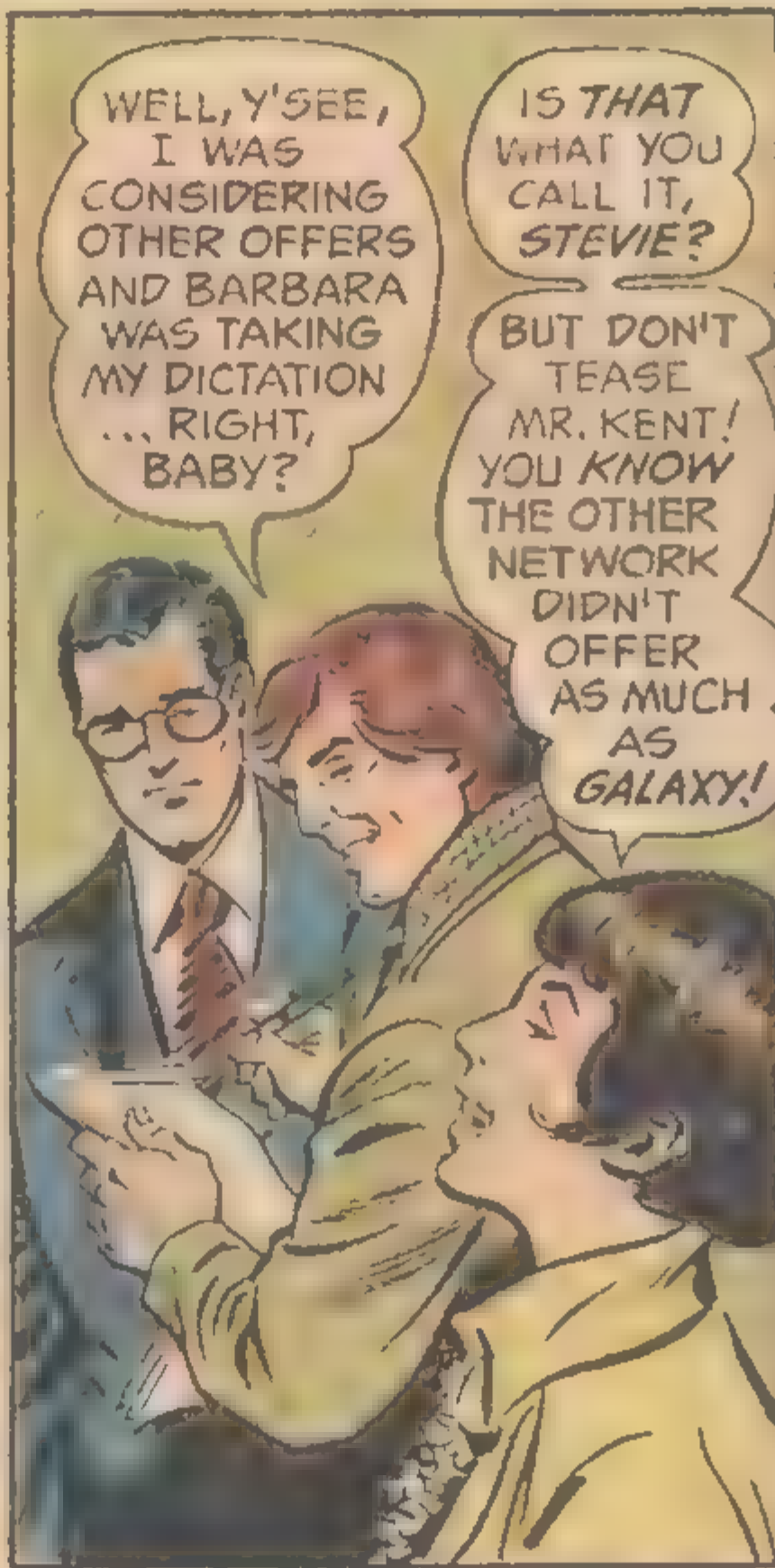
HE'S A
WALKING,
BREATHING
TELEVISION
SHOW... EVEN
TALKS LIKE
ONE!



THERE REMAINS NO TRAIL LEFT TO
FOLLOW, AND SINCE *SUPERMAN* HAS
ANOTHER JOB--AS *CLARK KENT* IN
THE *GALAXY BUILDING* CAFETERIA...

C'MON, CLARKIE--
DON'T WAVE THAT
UNSIGNED
CONTRACT IN
MY FACE WHEN
BARBARA HERE
IS ABOUT
TO EAT
LUNCH!

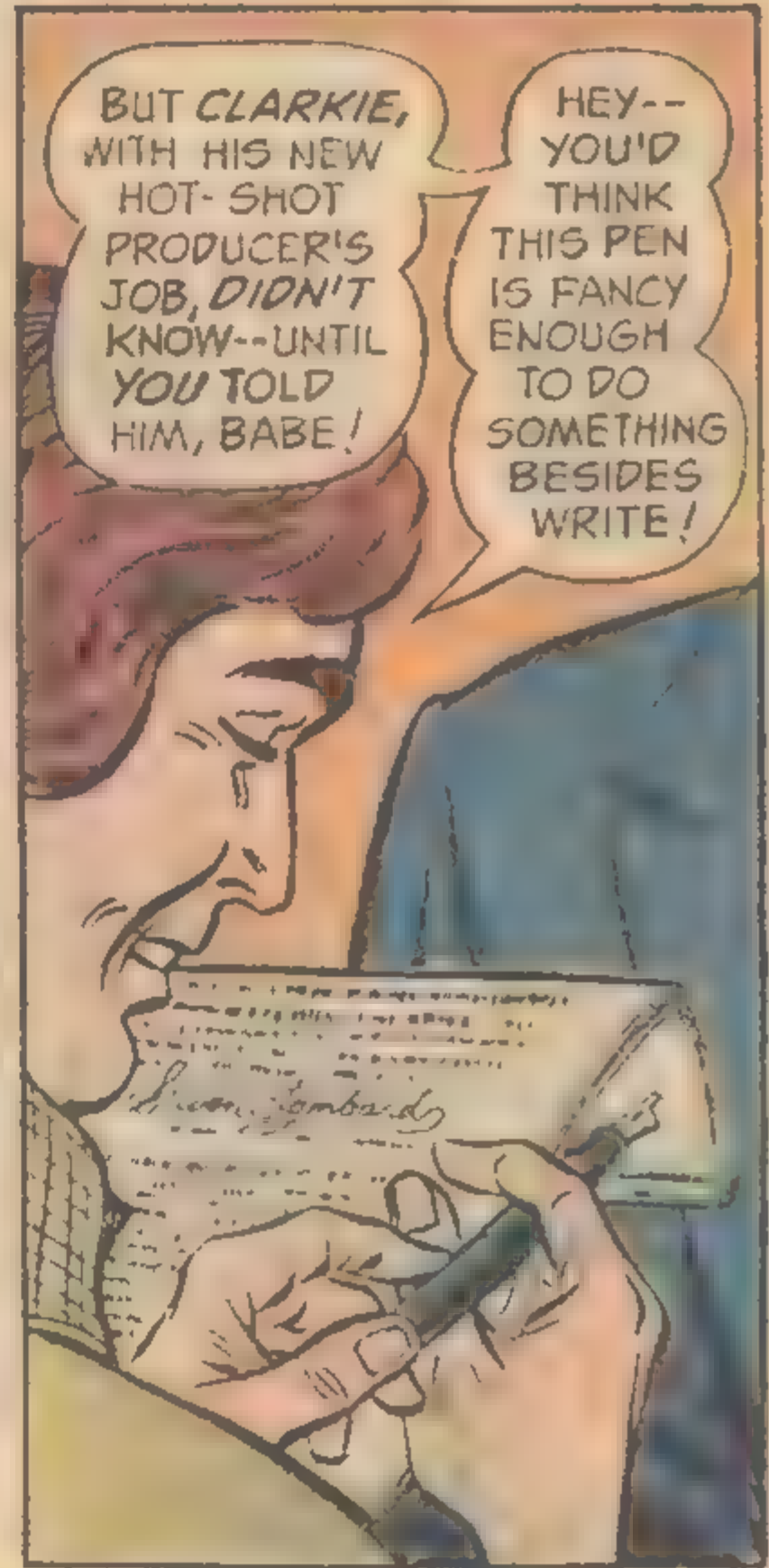
BUT, STEVE--YOUR
CONTRACT WITH
WGBS RUNS OUT
TONIGHT AND YOUR
OFFICE HAS BEEN
LOCKED
ALL
MORNING!



WELL, Y'SEE,
I WAS
CONSIDERING
OTHER OFFERS
AND *BARBARA*
WAS TAKING
MY DICTATION
... RIGHT,
BABY?

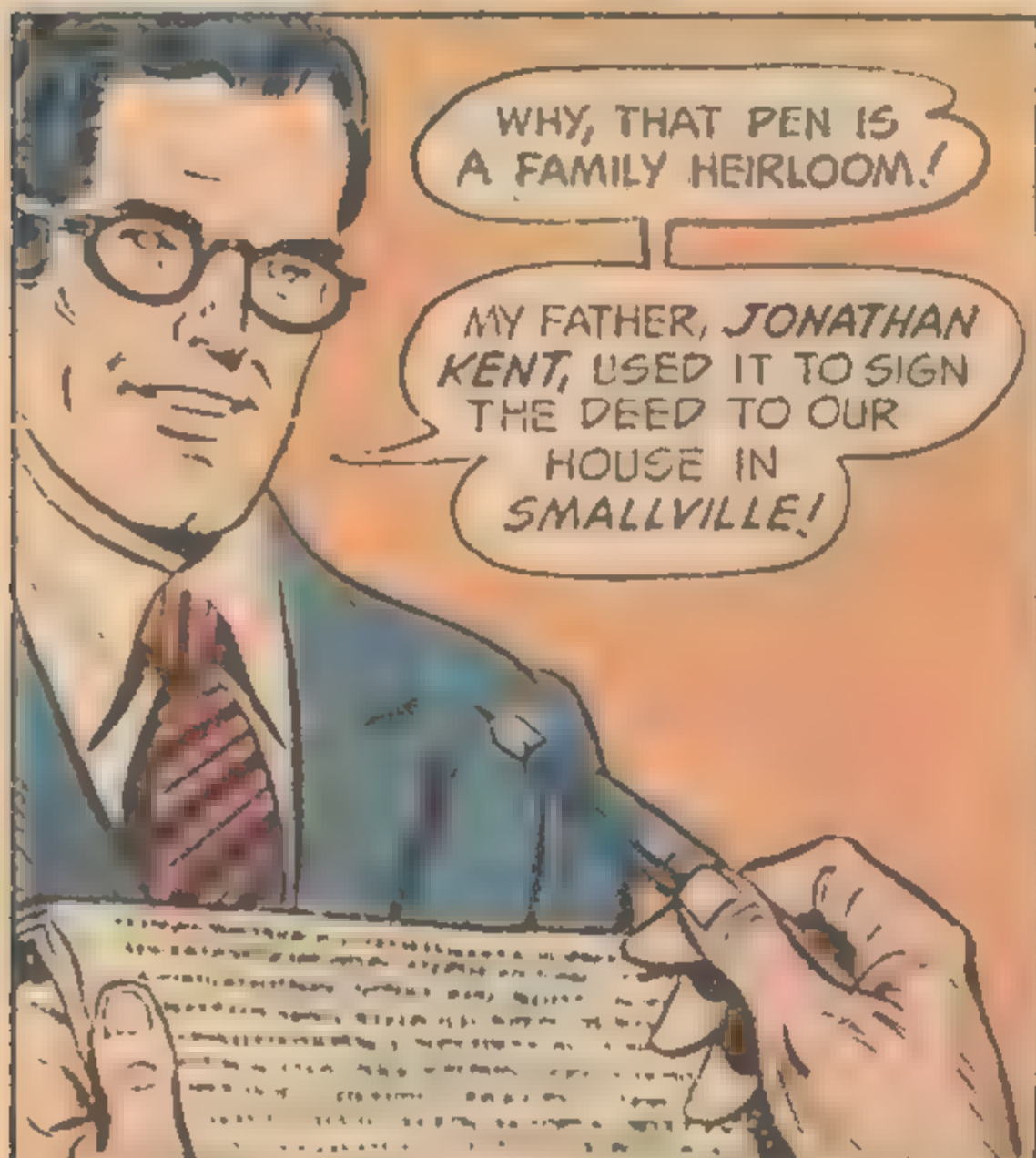
IS THAT
WHAT YOU
CALL IT,
STEVIE?

BUT DON'T
TEASE
MR. KENT!
YOU KNOW
THE OTHER
NETWORK
DIDN'T
OFFER AS
MUCH AS
GALAXY!



BUT *CLARKIE*,
WITH HIS NEW
HOT-SHOT
PRODUCER'S
JOB, DIDN'T
KNOW--UNTIL
YOU TOLD
HIM, BABE!

HEY--
YOU'D
THINK
THIS PEN
IS FANCY
ENOUGH
TO DO
SOMETHING
BESIDES
WRITE!



WHY, THAT PEN IS
A FAMILY HEIRLOOM!

MY FATHER, *JONATHAN
KENT*, USED IT TO SIGN
THE DEED TO OUR
HOUSE IN
SMALLVILLE!



THEN I'M HONORED TO
USE IT TO RENEW MY
CONTRACT WITH *WGBS*--

OOPS! SORRY,
CLARKIE... GUESS
YOUR ANTIQUE
DOESN'T HAVE
ANY RESPECT!

MEANWHILE, TELEVISION MOGUL SAM TANNER HAS JUST HEARD OF THE APPEARANCE OF A NEW CELEBRITY IN TOWN AND...

SILVERSTONE-- A NEW SUPER-CHARACTER JUST POPPED UP... AND GUESS WHICH NETWORK CARRIED THE EXCLUSIVE?

I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT-- IT WASN'T US!

PETER SILVERSTONE
RESIDENT INVENTOR

IF THIS TV CLOWN IS THE ONE YOU'VE BEEN DEVELOPING, I'LL--

WELL, ACTUALLY, HE IS, MR. TANNER... BUT IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

YOU MEAN YOU DOPED OUT A COSTUME AND POWERS FOR THIS CHARACTER AND DIDN'T EVEN LET ME KNOW ABOUT IT?

START TALKING--!

"THIS MORNING--AS I BEGAN A SERIES OF TESTS ON MY WONDROUS, NEWLY-COMPLETED COSTUME..."

"... SOME DASTARDLY FIEND CAME UP BEHIND ME AND KNOCKED ME SILLY..."

"HE COULD BE ANYWHERE NOW... LISTENING IN ON ANY CONVERSATION WHERE THERE'S A RADIO OR TV PRESENT..."

"...OR SENDING ILLUSIONS INTO ROOMS THROUGH TELEVISION SCREENS! WHY, IT'S POSITIVELY FRIGHTENING!"

"DONNING THE COSTUME, THIS THIEF DISCOVERED HE COULD RIDE BROADCAST WAVES AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT TO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD--"

I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU IMMEDIATELY, BUT I... I CAME TO JUST BEFORE YOU WALKED IN HERE!

THERE, PETER... CALM YOURSELF DOWN! WE'LL FIGURE THIS OUT LATER!

I'M LUCKY MR. TANNER BOUGHT THAT LINE OF BULL I HANDED HIM...

...BECAUSE HE CAN'T KNOW THE REAL STORY! NO ONE CAN-- NOT YET!

MAKE EXTRA CASH NO REAL "SELLING" JUST SHOW THIS SAMPLE WE GIVE YOU FREE!

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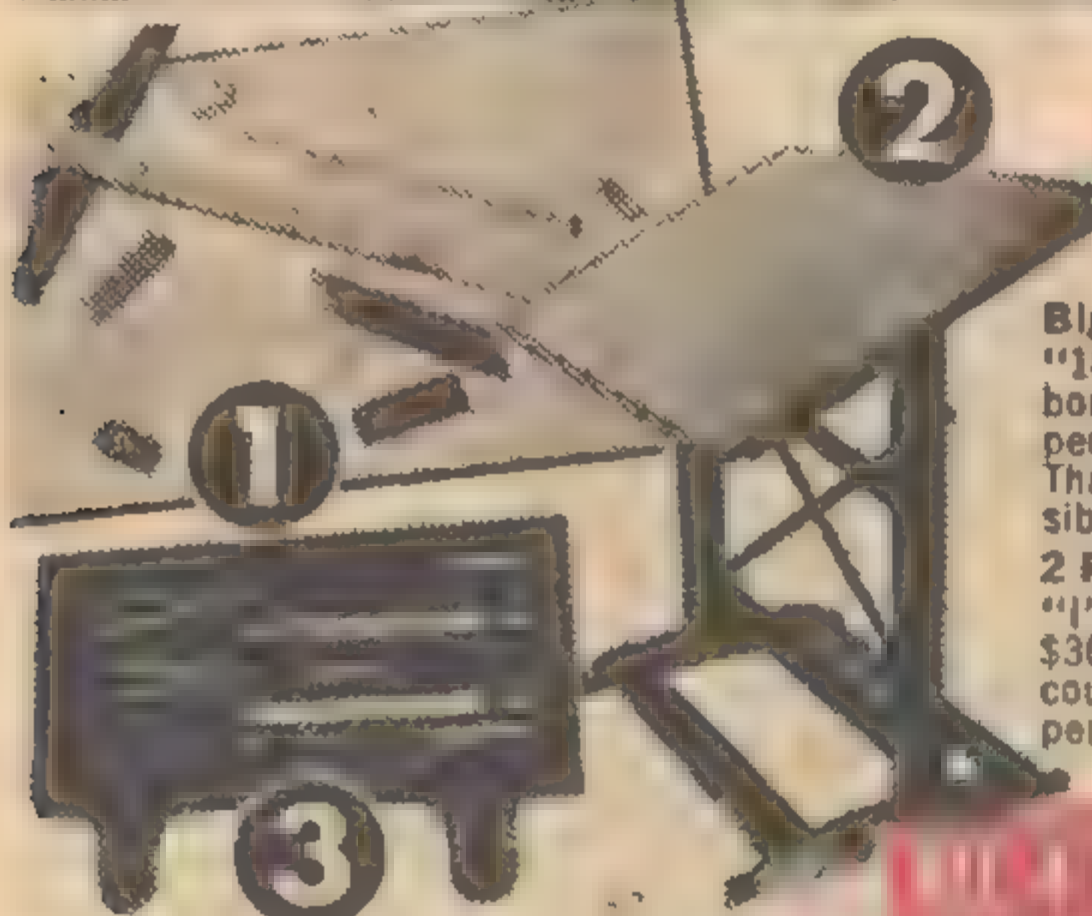
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Address _____

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G.I.S.
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UNDER NEW GI BILL



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Simple directions for a tense battle on land, sea and air. The general best able to strategically place his forces and direct his firing will be the only survivor of this terrific battle.

3-D PLASTIC PIECES up to 5" LONG

132

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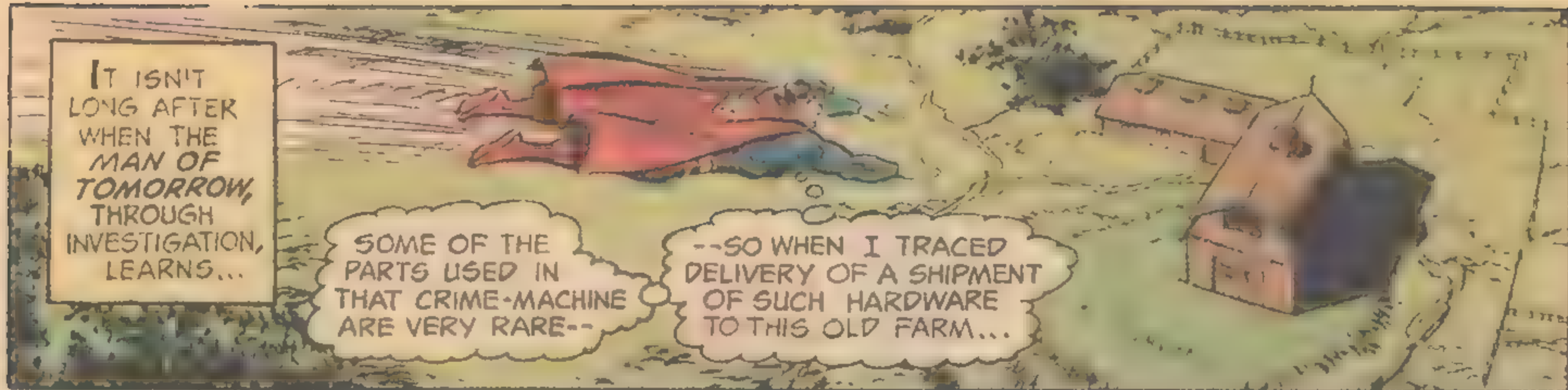
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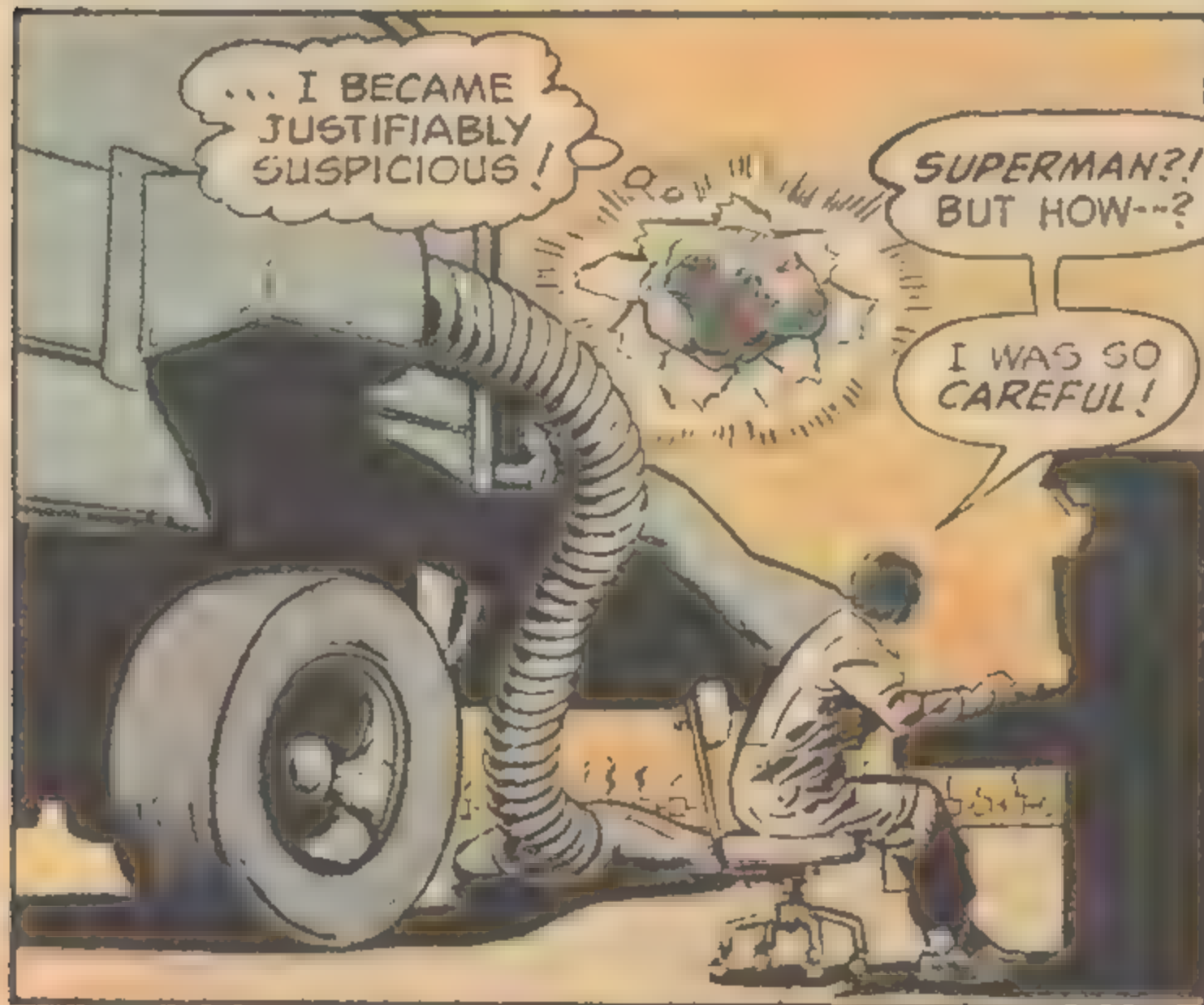
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IT ISN'T LONG AFTER WHEN THE MAN OF TOMORROW, THROUGH INVESTIGATION, LEARNS...

SOME OF THE PARTS USED IN THAT CRIME-MACHINE ARE VERY RARE--

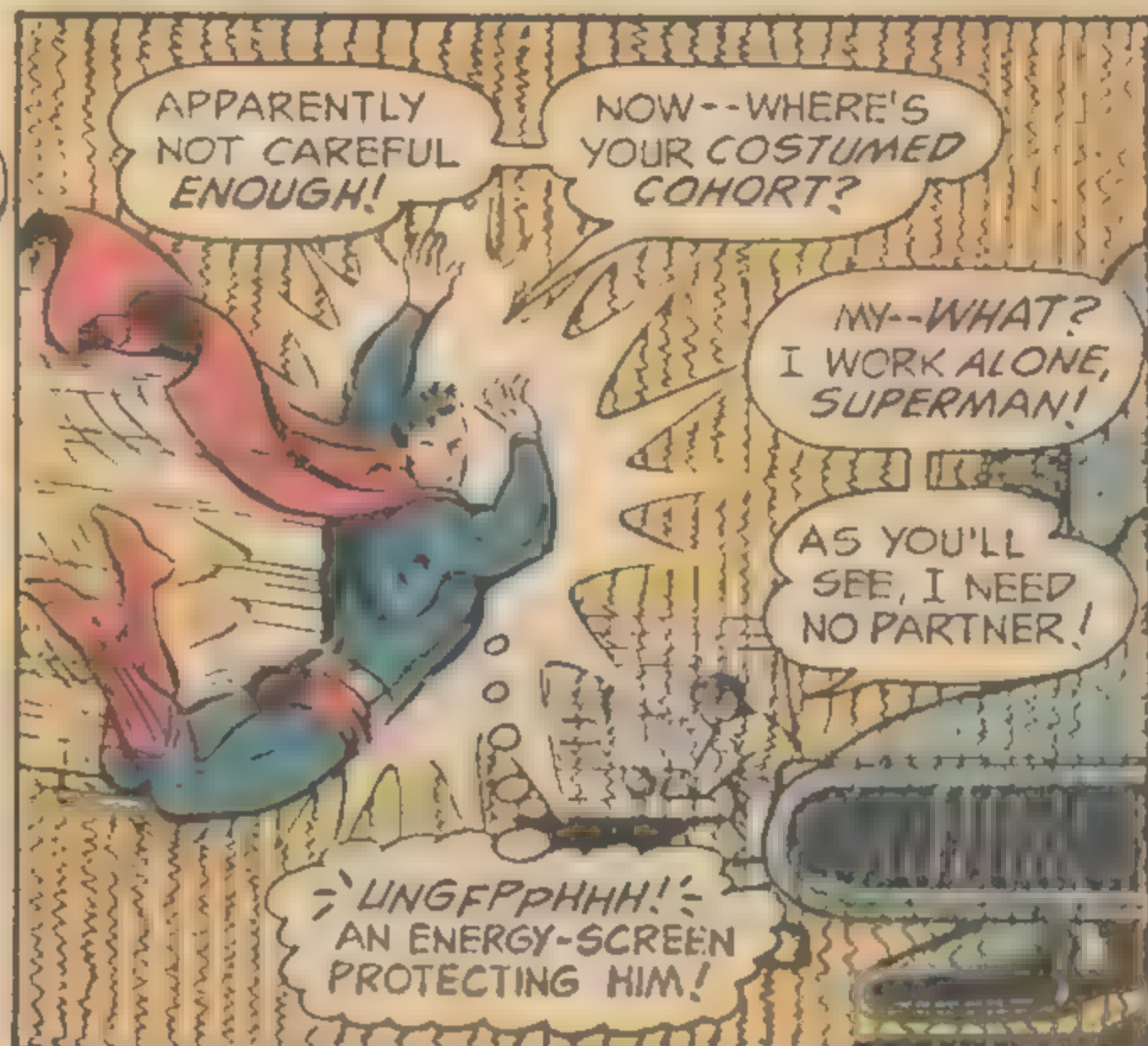
--SO WHEN I TRACED DELIVERY OF A SHIPMENT OF SUCH HARDWARE TO THIS OLD FARM...



... I BECAME JUSTIFIABLY SUSPICIOUS!

SUPERMAN?! BUT HOW--?

I WAS SO CAREFUL!



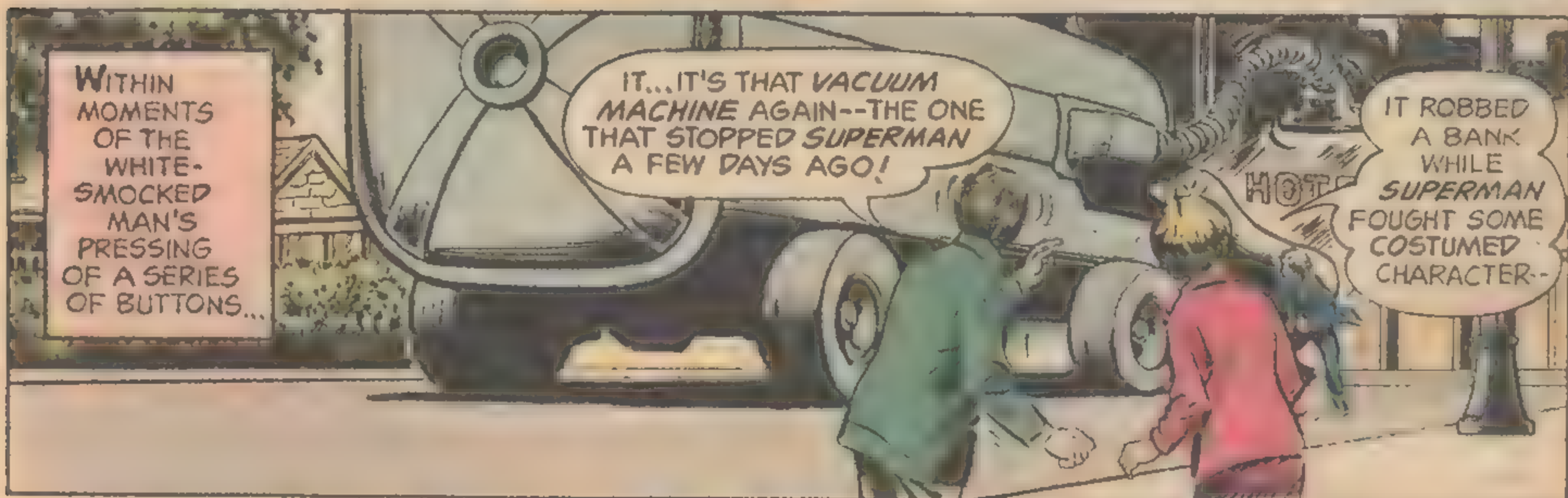
APPARENTLY NOT CAREFUL ENOUGH!

NOW--WHERE'S YOUR COSTUMED COHORT?

MY--WHAT? I WORK ALONE, SUPERMAN!

AS YOU'LL SEE, I NEED NO PARTNER!

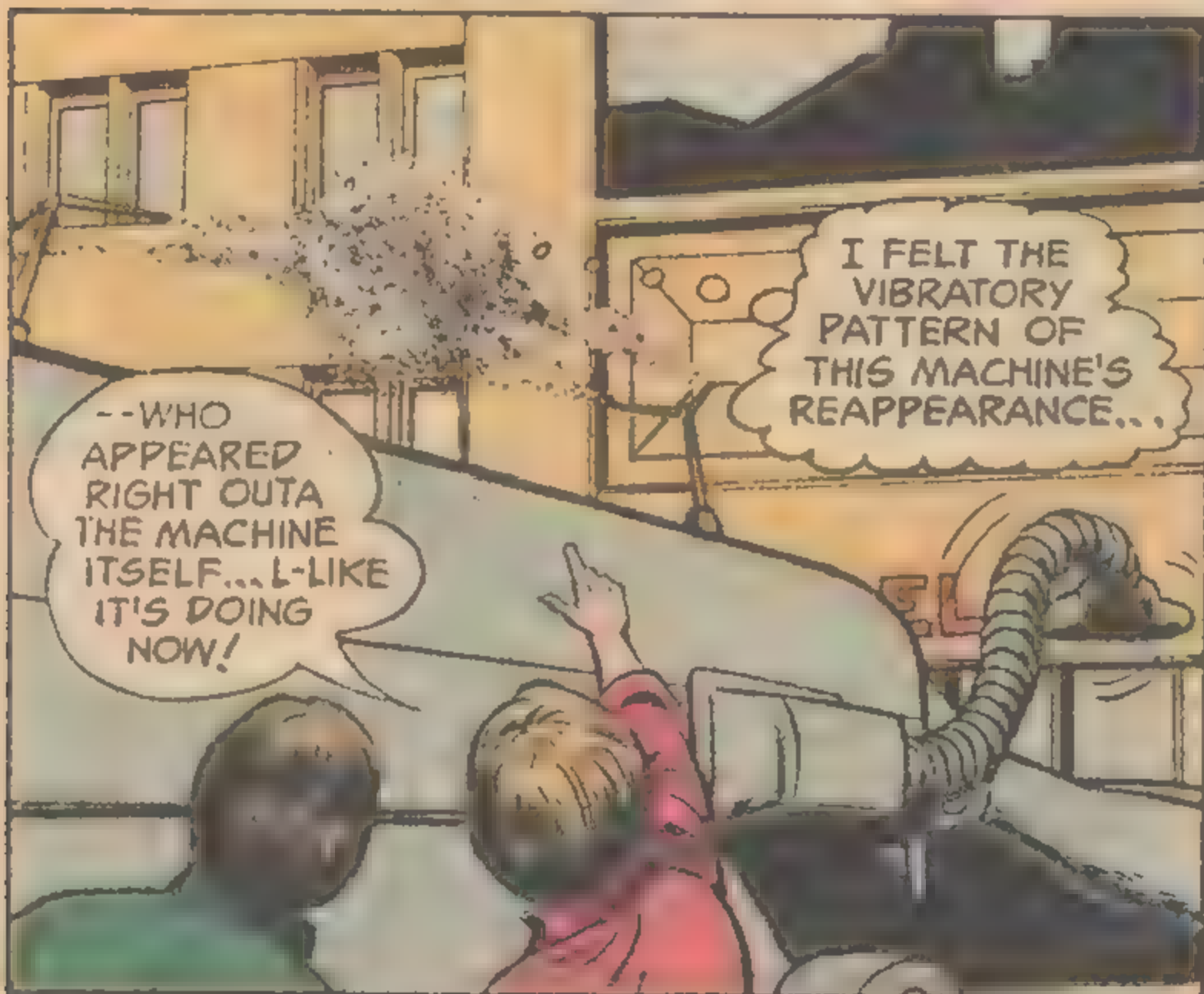
UNGFPHHH! AN ENERGY-SCREEN PROTECTING HIM!



WITHIN MOMENTS OF THE WHITE-SMOCKED MAN'S PRESSING OF A SERIES OF BUTTONS...

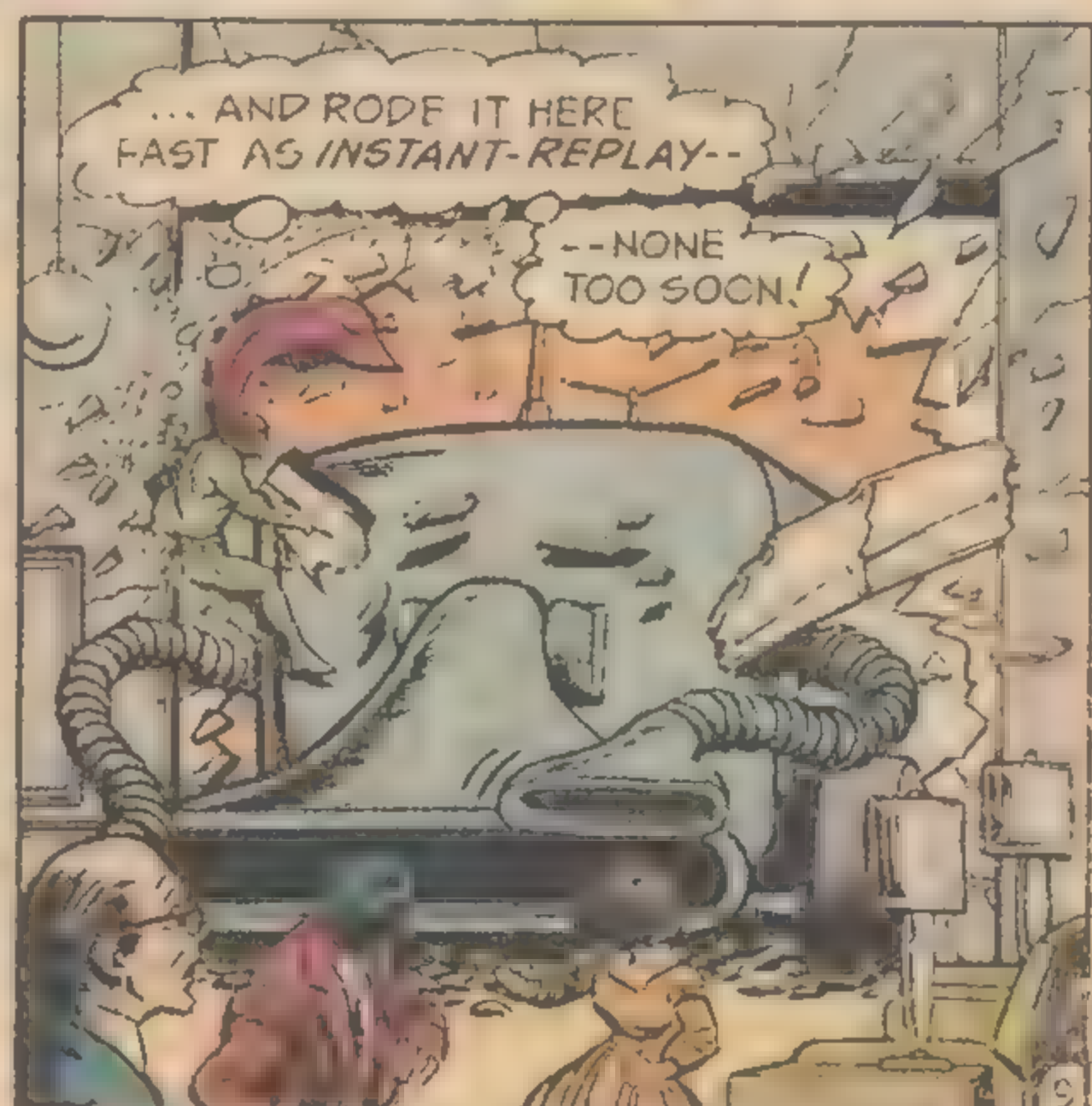
IT...IT'S THAT VACUUM MACHINE AGAIN--THE ONE THAT STOPPED SUPERMAN A FEW DAYS AGO!

IT ROBBED A BANK WHILE SUPERMAN FOUGHT SOME COSTUMED CHARACTER--



--WHO APPEARED RIGHT OUTA THE MACHINE ITSELF...L-LIKE IT'S DOING NOW!

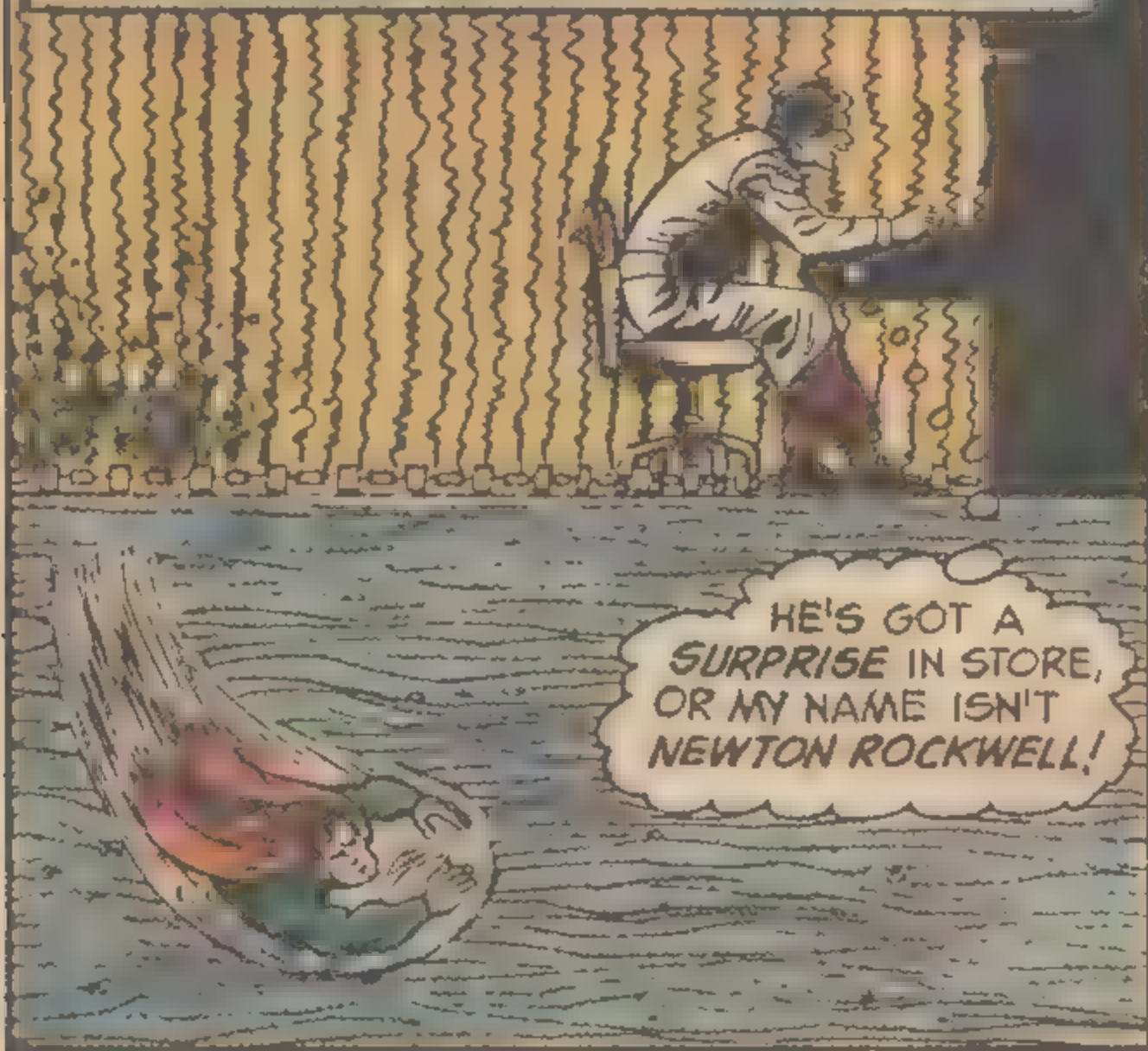
I FELT THE VIBRATORY PATTERN OF THIS MACHINE'S REAPPEARANCE...



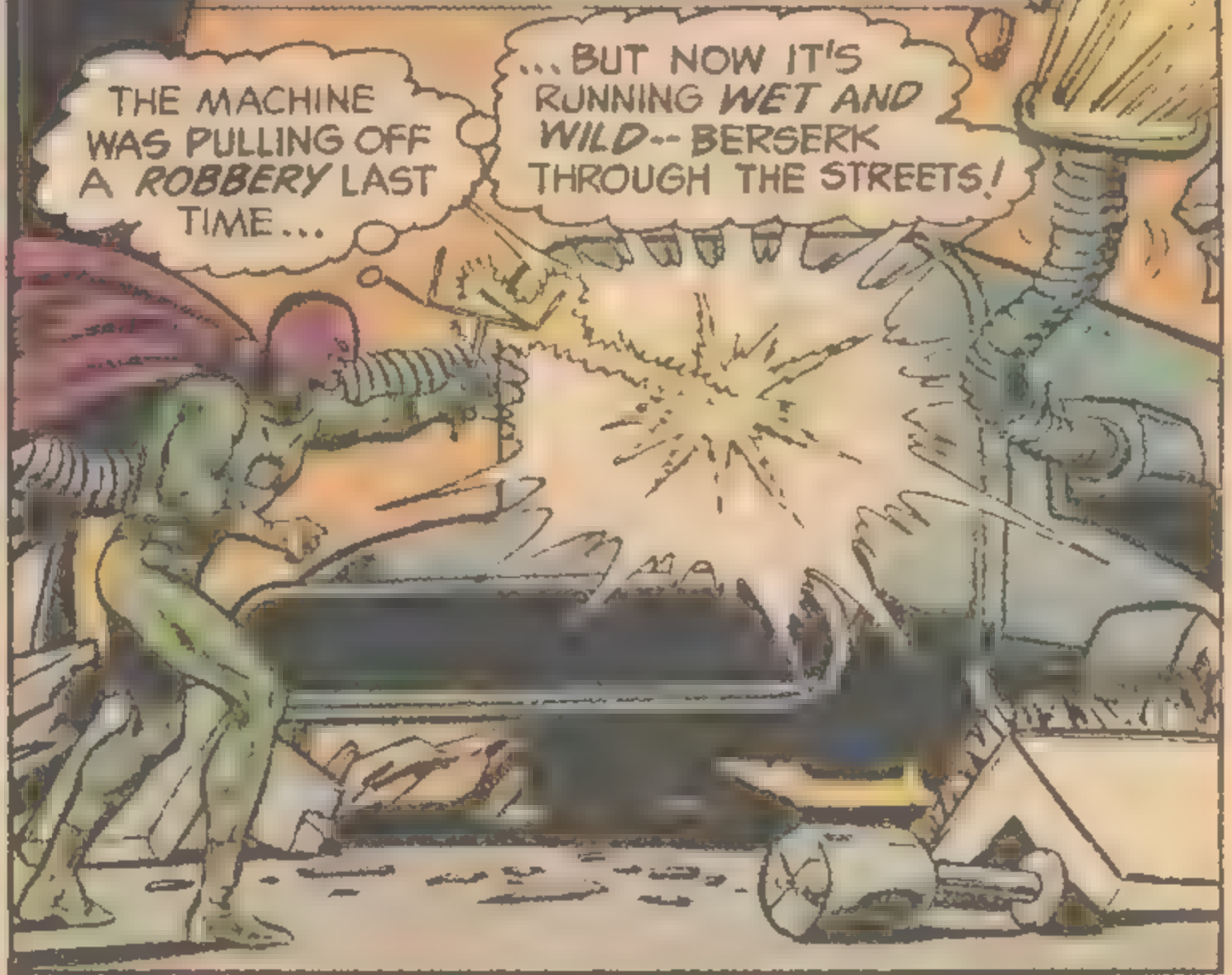
... AND RODE IT HERE FAST AS INSTANT-REPLAY--

--NONE TOO SOON!

MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN BORES THROUGH THE GROUND TO GET AT THE CRIMINAL-SCIENTIST FROM BELOW HIS PROTECTIVE-ENERGY SCREEN...

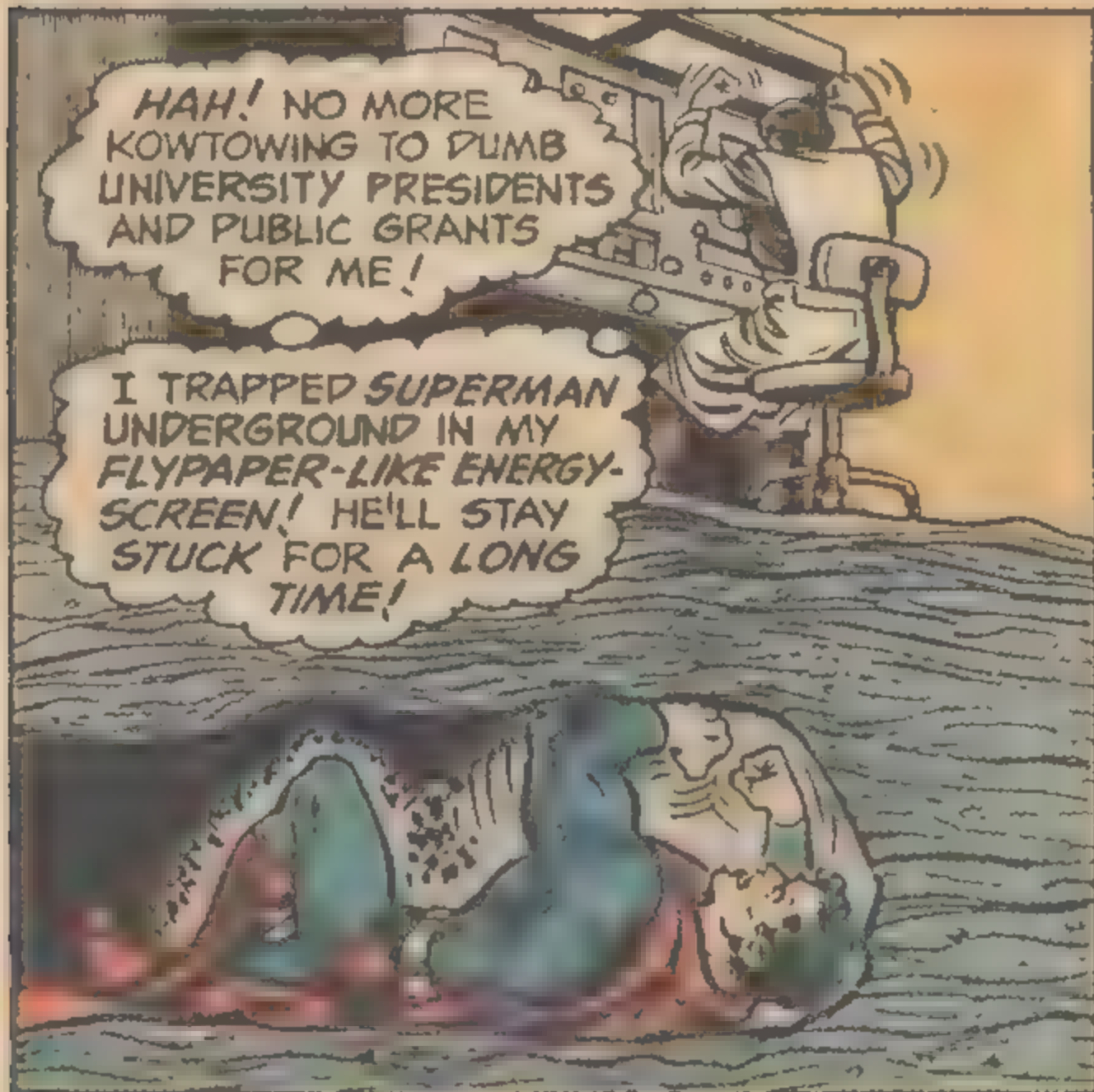


... IT IS THE TELE-HERO WHO GRABS THE RAVE PUBLIC NOTICES TODAY--

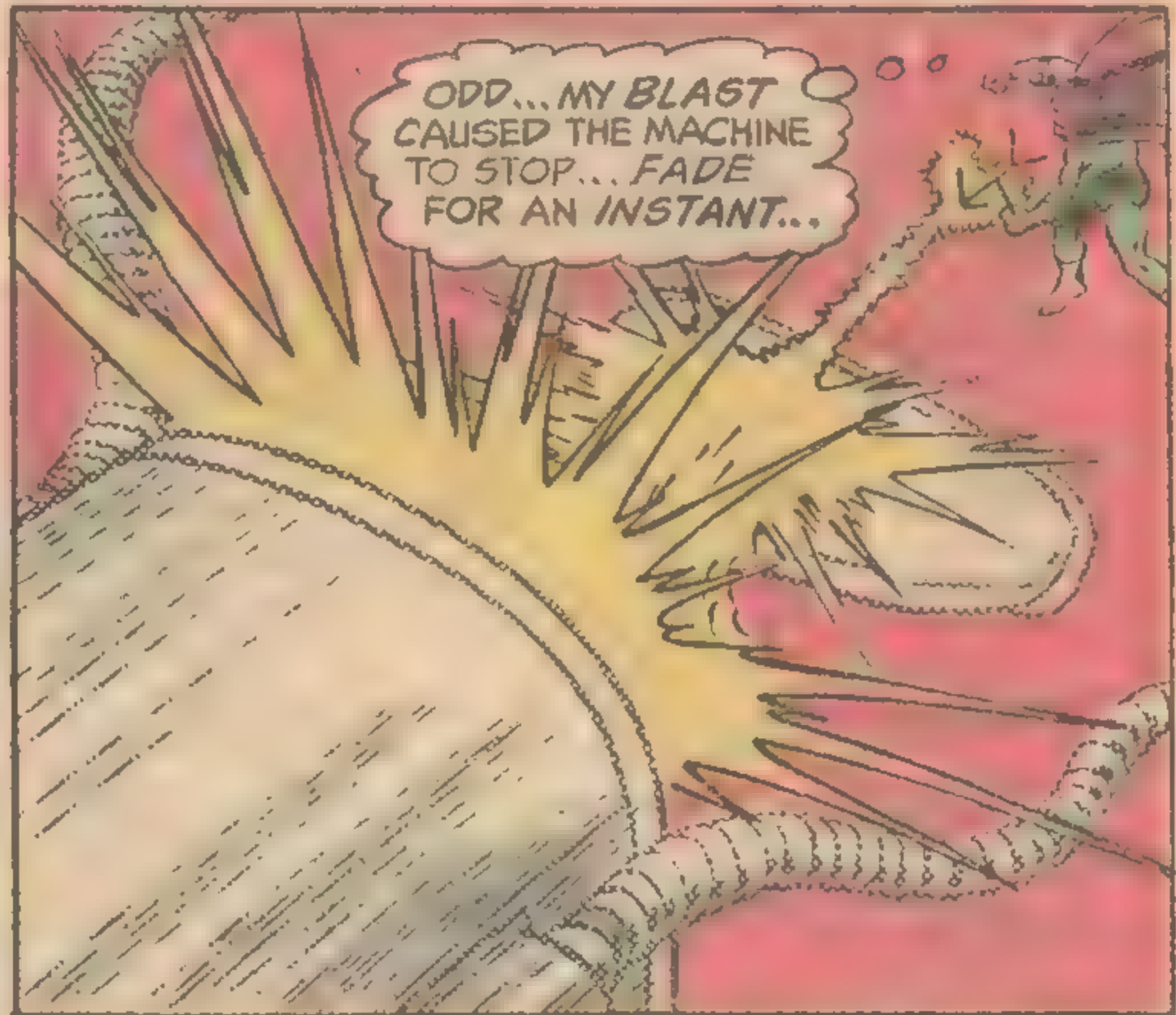


HAH! NO MORE KOWTOWING TO DUMB UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS AND PUBLIC GRANTS FOR ME!

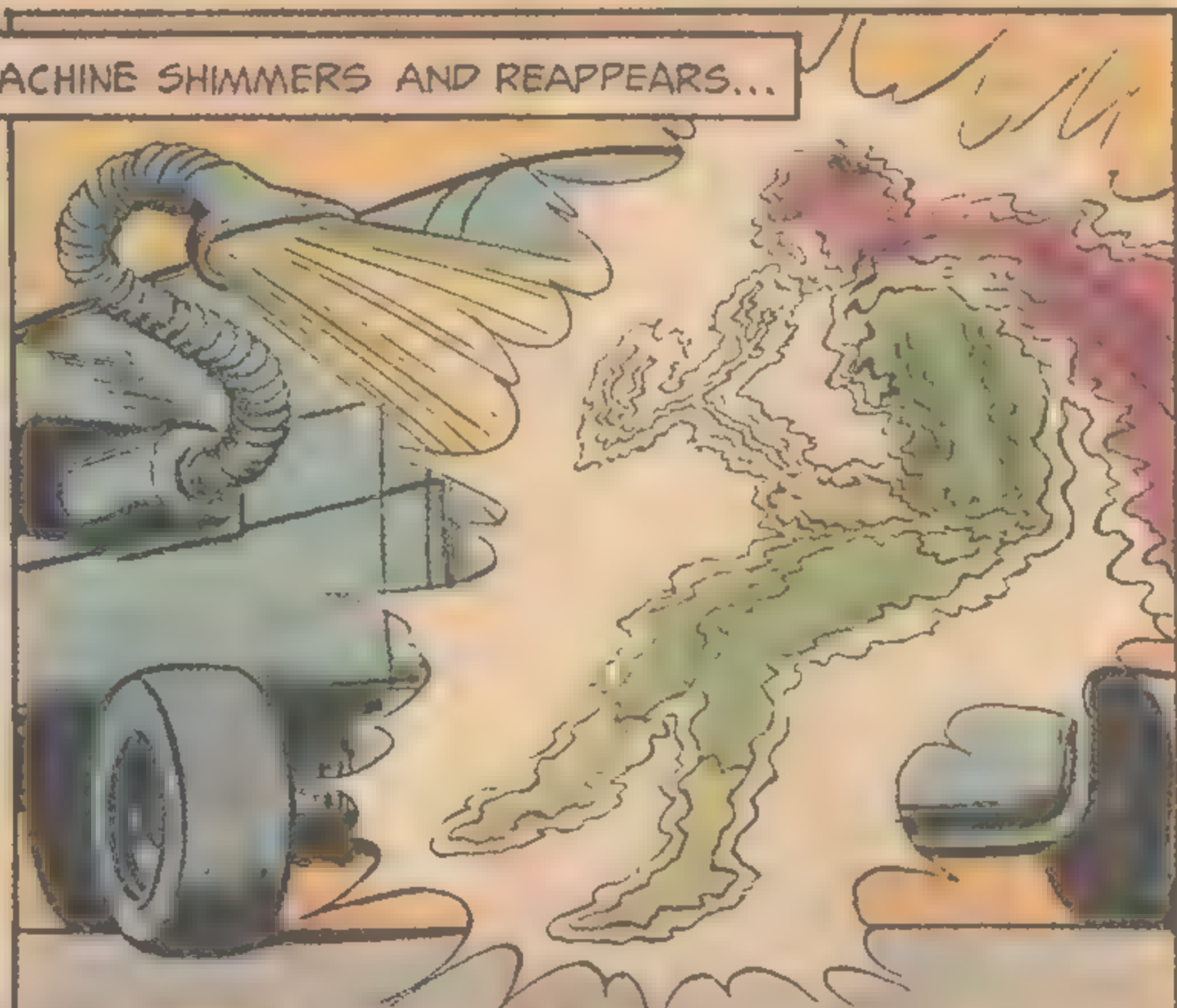
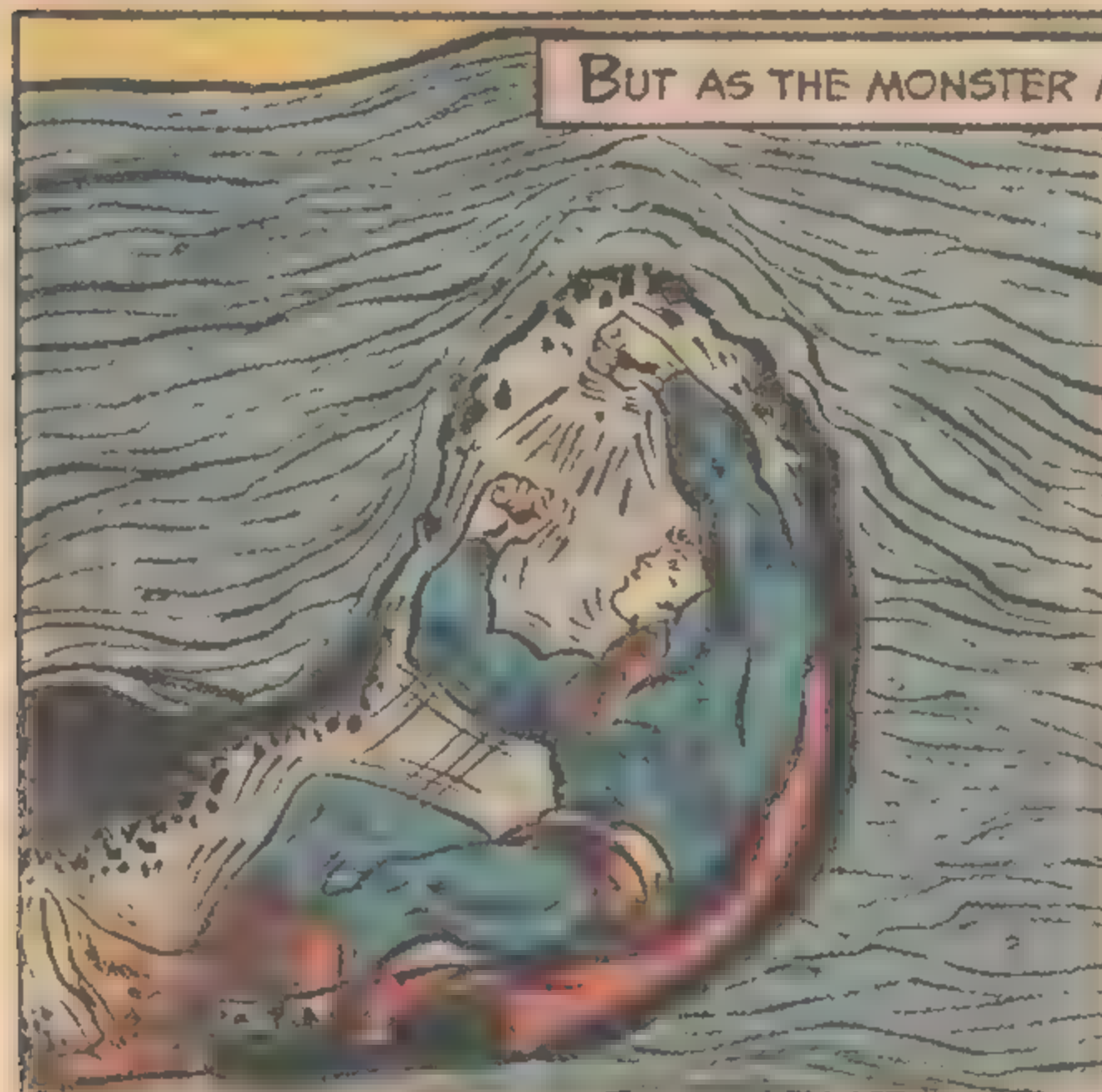
I TRAPPED SUPERMAN UNDERGROUND IN MY FLYPAPER-LIKE ENERGY-SCREEN! HE'LL STAY STUCK FOR A LONG TIME!



ODD... MY BLAST CAUSED THE MACHINE TO STOP... FADE FOR AN INSTANT...



BUT AS THE MONSTER MACHINE SHIMMERS AND REAPPEARS...



... SUPERMAN MOMENTARILY FEELS A WEAKENING OF THE ENERGY HOLDING HIM CAPTIVE...

CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING.

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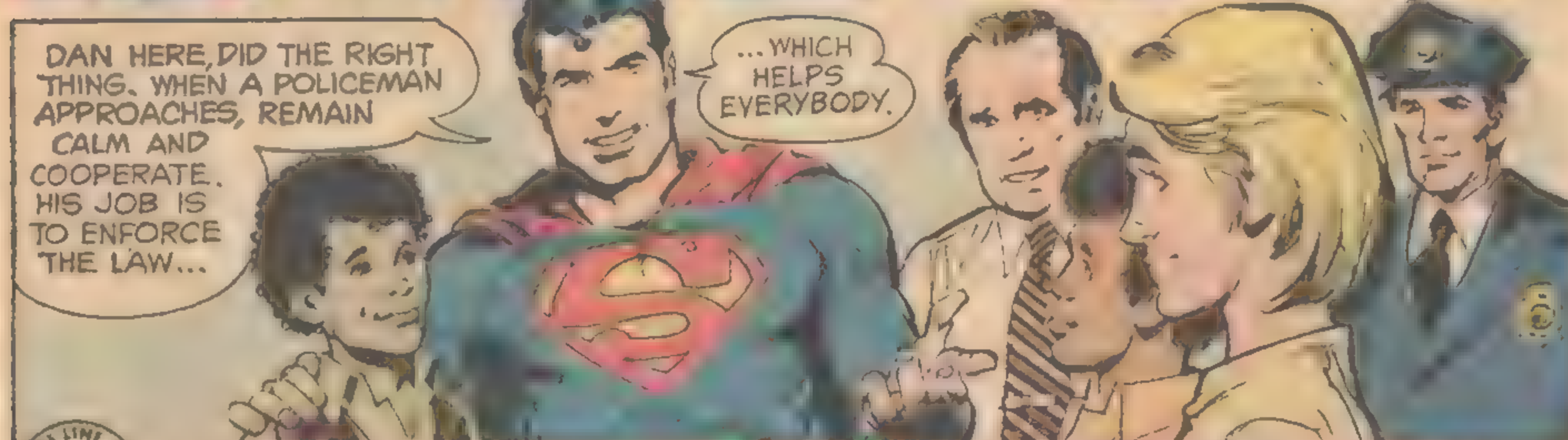
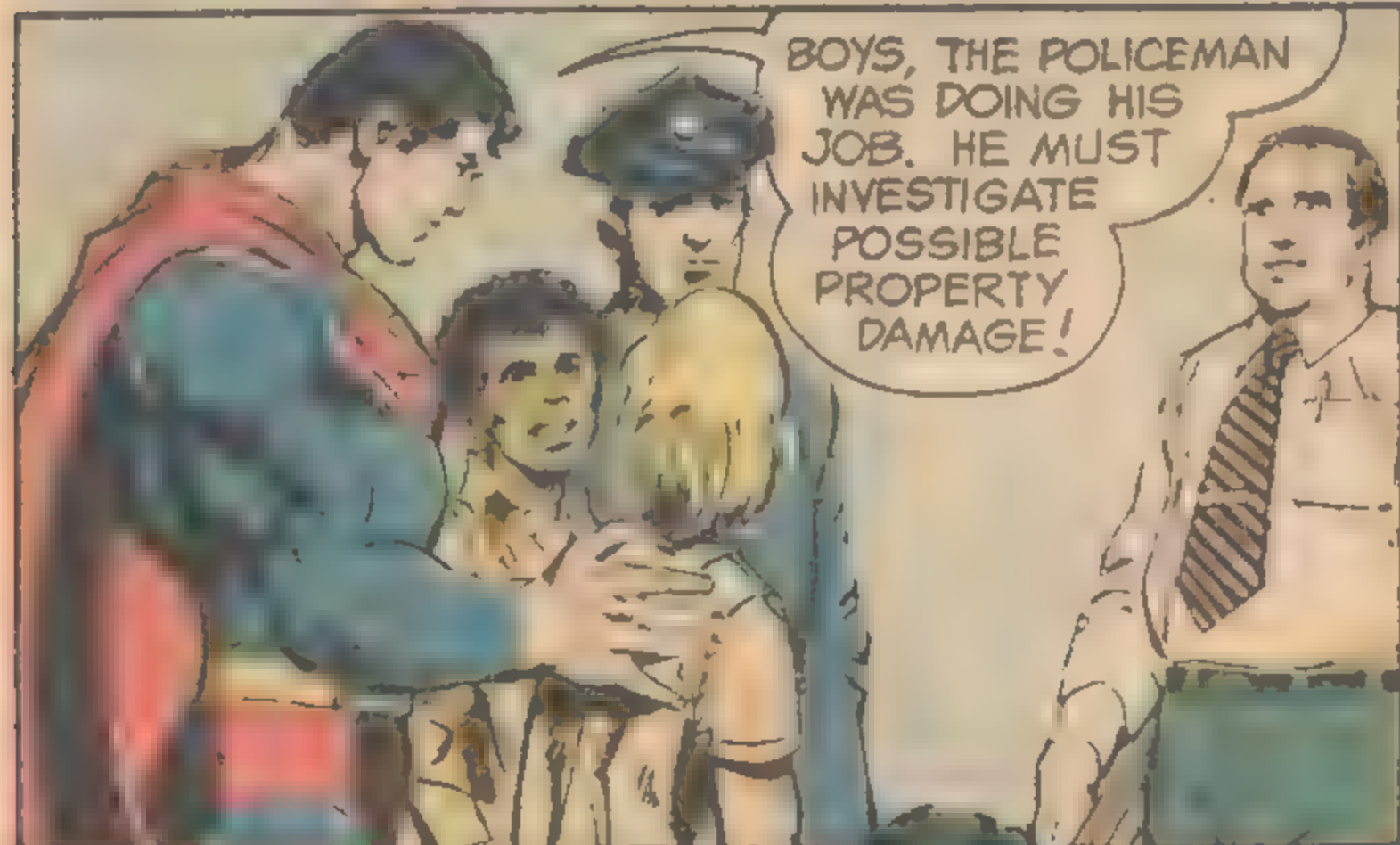
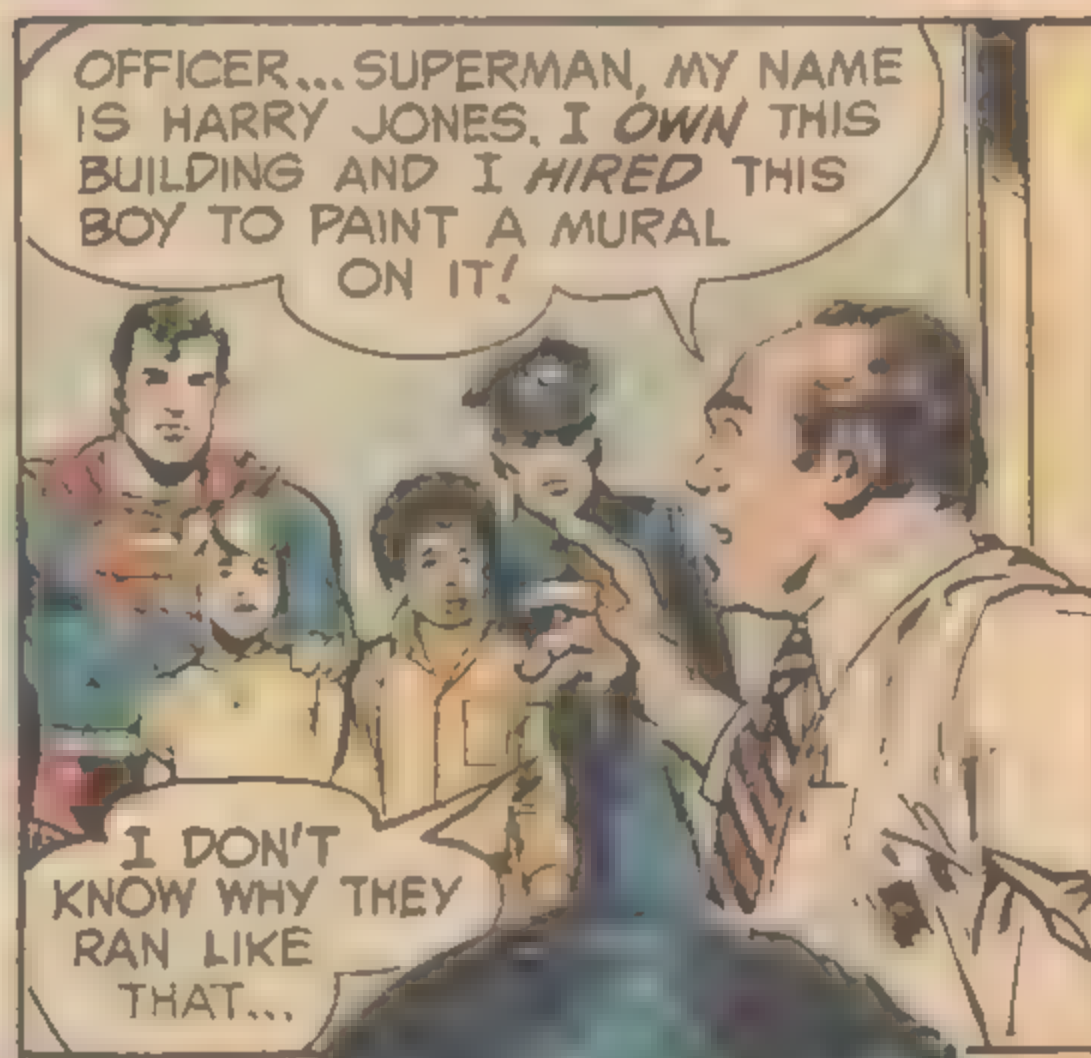
Mr. _____
 Mrs. _____
 Miss _____ Age _____

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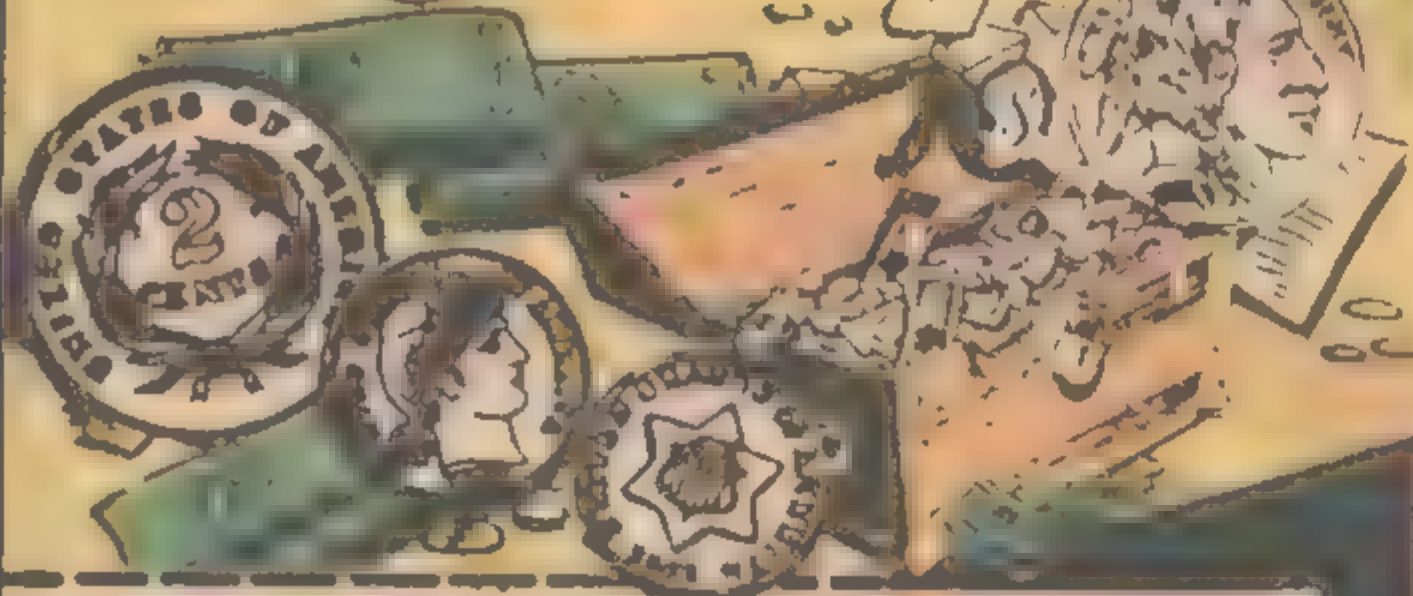
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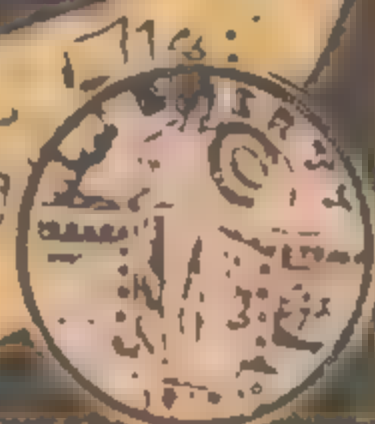
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AHH... THE TASTE OF VICTORY-- A TASTE THAT BEATS THE OTHERS-- COLD!

AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE METROPOLIS...

THE TANK-- BACK HERE?!

I TRANSPORTED IT TO METROPOLIS AS A DIVERSION TO LURE SUPERMAN AWAY!

BUT HE'S TRAPPED IN MY ENERGY-SCREEN, SO WHO COULD HAVE DEFEATED IT, TRIGGERING ITS AUTOMATIC RETURN?

DOESN'T MATTER, PROFESSOR! THAT RETURN DRAINED YOUR POWER...

... ENOUGH FOR A *SUPERMAN* TO BE ABLE TO OVERCOME WHAT'S LEFT!

NO! MY PLAN WAS SUPERMAN-PROOF!

I CAN'T BE DEFEATED!

YOU CAN--

--AND ARE!

ONCE I DUMP ROCKWELL AT POLICE HEAD-QUARTERS, I'LL SEE IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT ABOUT HOW THAT TANK WAS DEFEATED!

BUT *SUPERMAN* MAY HAVE TROUBLE CATCHING UP TO THE ELUSIVE GENTLEMAN HE SUSPECTS IS RESPONSIBLE...

... FOR IT SEEMS HE HAS EVERY INTENTION OF FINDING TROUBLE AND NOT BEING FOUND HIMSELF!...

~GASP!~ DID HE REALLY GO INTO... THE TELEPHONE LINE?

OKAY, I'LL SAY IT... WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?

BUT WAIT--! THIS HERO CAME INTO BEING TO GIVE THE *WGBS* COMPETITOR A *BREAK*, REMEMBER? WATCH THIS UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN A *UBC NEWSVAN*...

WHAT'S *THIS*?
LITTLE BLACK
PARTICLES
FLUTTERING
OUT OF MY
TV MONITOR...

...FORMING
INTO A BLACK
LUMP--LIKE
A ROCK!--A
BLACK ROCK!

EXCELLENT!
BLACKROCK! I'LL
USE THAT NAME!

LOLA BARNETT--AS
UNITED BROADCASTING
COMPANY'S NEWEST
RECRUIT-- YOU
DESERVE A *BREAK*
TODAY!

YOU HAVE JUST
WON AN *EXCLUSIVE*
INTERVIEW WITH
ME...THE ELUSIVE
BLACKROCK!

AND UNKNOWN TO PASSERS-BY, THE BIGGEST
STORY TO HIT *METROPOLIS* IN YEARS IS UN-
FOLDING INSIDE AN UNASSUMING LITTLE MINIBUS...

AS A STARTER--
TELL ME WHO YOU
ARE UNDER THAT
MASK, *BLACKROCK*!

OH, I CAN'T TELL
YOU *THAT*--IT'S ONE
OF THE RULES OF
THIS *SUPER-HERO*
GAME!

WITHIN MINUTES, THE
TAPED INTERVIEW IS
BROADCAST BY *UBC*
TO THE NATION...

YES, I CAN
TELL YOU
WHAT MY
POWERS
ARE--BUT
THE RULES
SAY YOU
ASK THE
QUESTIONS!

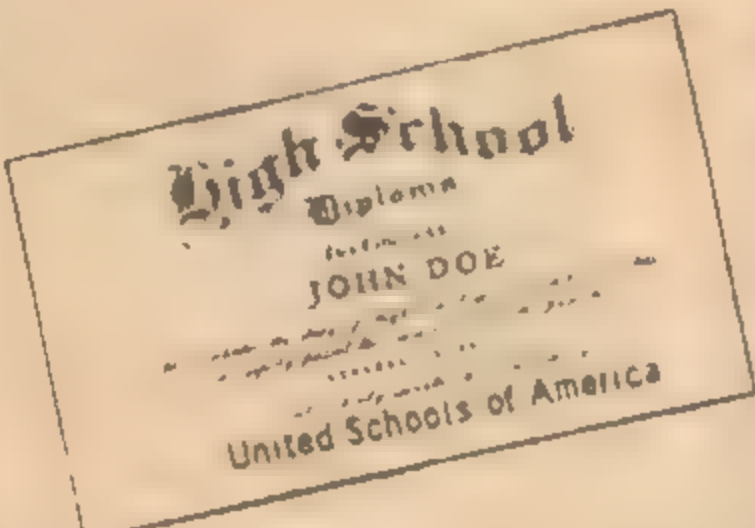
OKAY!
WHAT ARE
YOUR
POWERS--
BESIDES
THE
ABILITY TO
MATERIAL-
IZE OUT OF
TELEVISION
SCREENS?

I CAN CAST
ILLUSIONS OF
SIGHT OR *SOUND*
WHEREVER THERE'S
A *TV*, *RADIO* OR
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OPERATION!

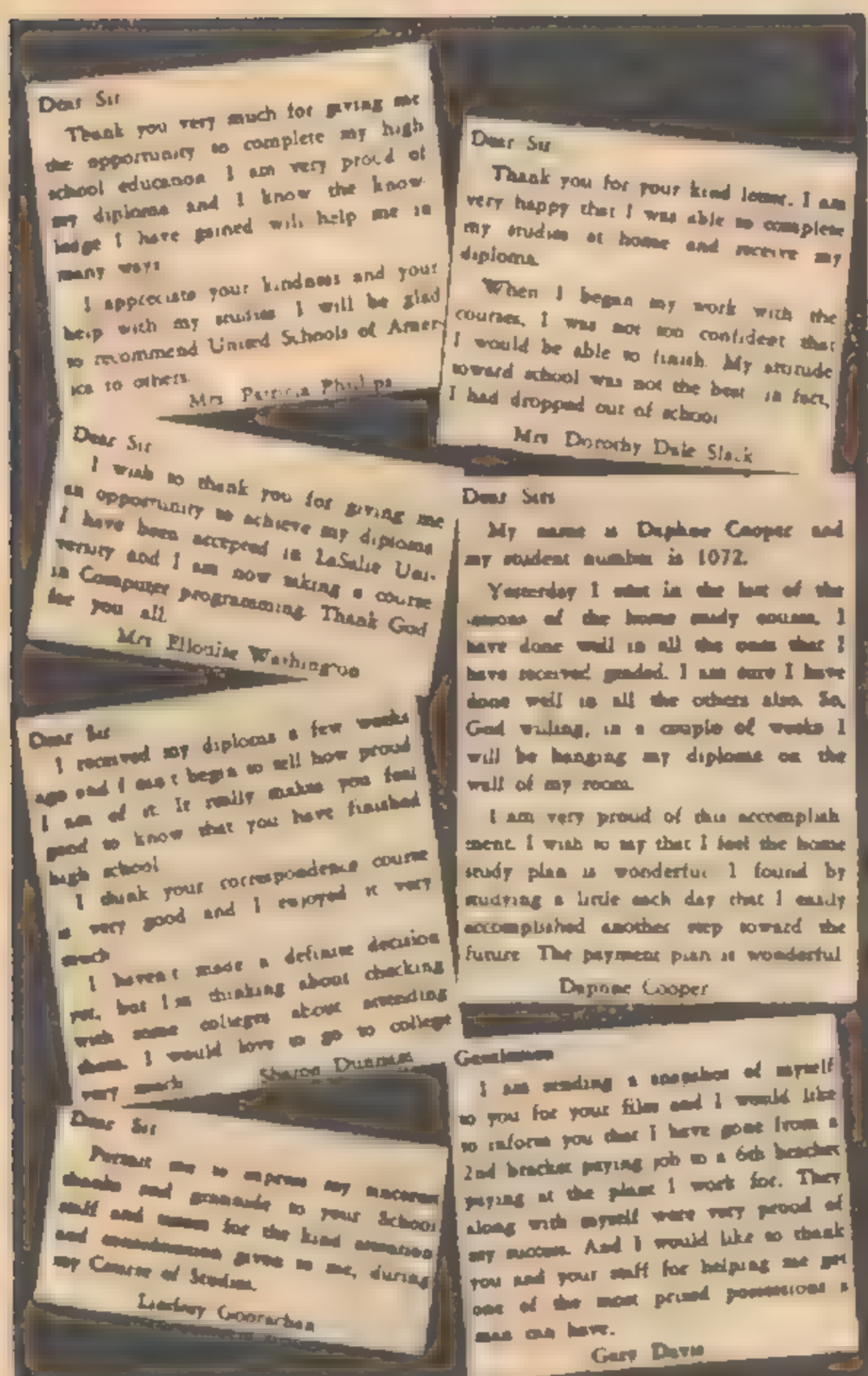
I CAN SHORT-OUT
ANY COMMUNICA-
TIONS GADGET
AT WILL...LISTEN
IN ON ANY PHONE
CONVERSATION!

I INTEND TO USE
THESE POWERS
FOR *TRUTH*, *JUSTICE*,
AND THE *AMERICAN*
WAY!

SNAP!

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Mrs. Patricia Phillips

Dear Sir
I wish to thank you for giving me an opportunity to achieve my diploma. I have been accepted in LaSalle University and I am now taking a course in Computer programming. Thank God for you all.
Mrs. Ellonise Washington

Dear Sir
I received my diploma a few weeks ago and I can't begin to tell how proud I am of it. It really makes you feel good to know that you have finished high school.
I think your correspondence course is very good and I enjoyed it very much.
I haven't made a definite decision yet, but I'm thinking about checking with some colleges about attending them. I would love to go to college very much.
Sharon Dumas

Dear Sir
Permit me to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to your School staff and union for the kind attention and consideration given to me, during my Course of Studies.
Lester Goorabha

Dear Sir
Thank you for your kind letter. I am very happy that I was able to complete my studies at home and receive my diploma.
When I began my work with the courses, I was not so confident that I would be able to finish. My attitude toward school was not the best. In fact, I had dropped out of school.
Mrs. Dorothy Dale Slack

Dear Sir
My name is Daphne Cooper and my student number is 1072.
Yesterday I was in the list of the names of the home study course. I have done well in all the ones that I have received graded. I am sure I have done well in all the others also. So, God willing, in a couple of weeks I will be hanging my diploma on the wall of my room.
I am very proud of this accomplishment. I wish to say that I feel the home study plan is wonderful. I found by studying a little each day that I easily accomplished another step toward the future. The payment plan is wonderful.
Daphne Cooper

Gentlemen
I am sending a snapshot of myself to you for your file and I would like to inform you that I have gone from a 2nd bracket paying job to a 6th bracket paying at the plant I work for. They along with myself were very proud of my success. And I would like to thank you and your staff for helping me get one of the most prized possessions a man can have.
Gary Davis

YOURS

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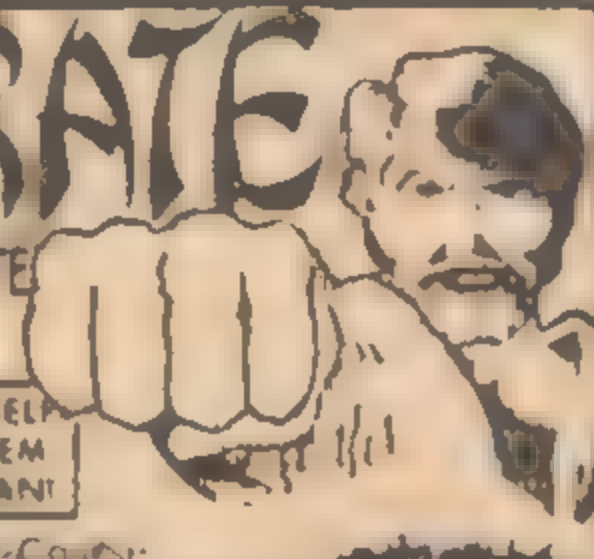
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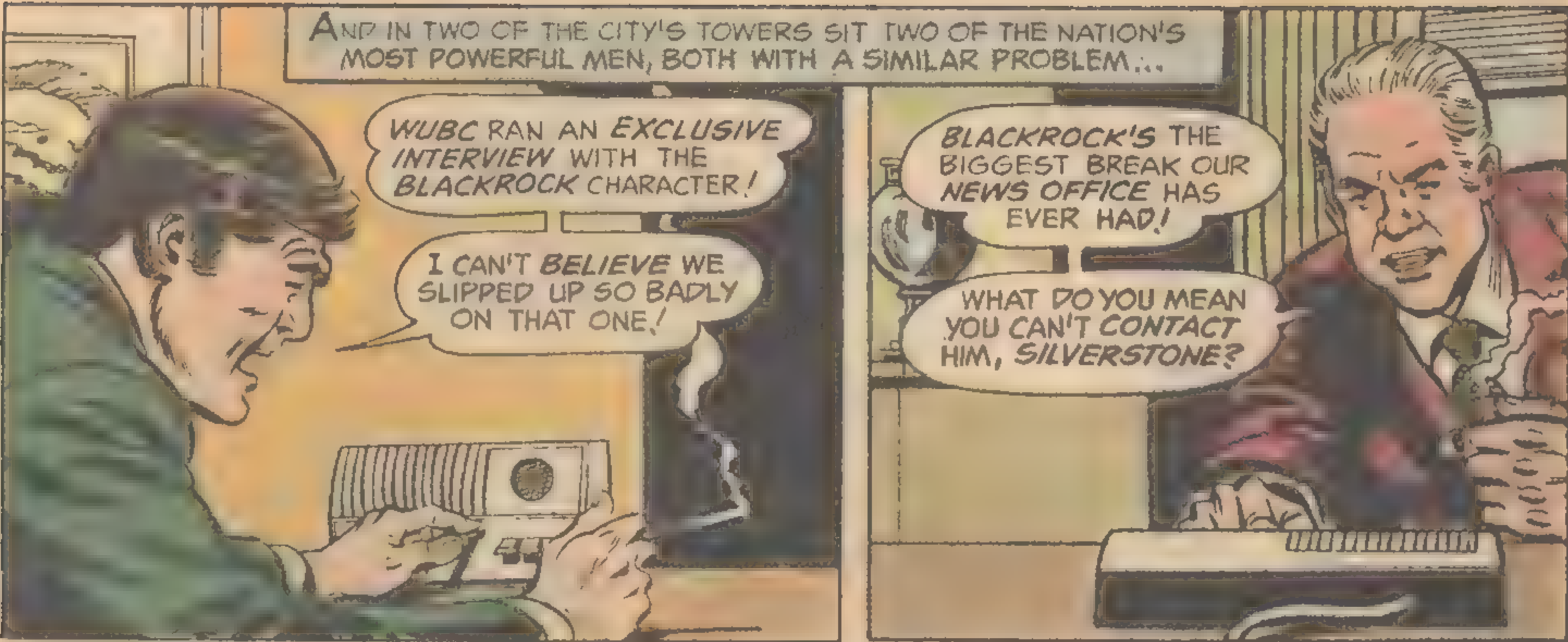
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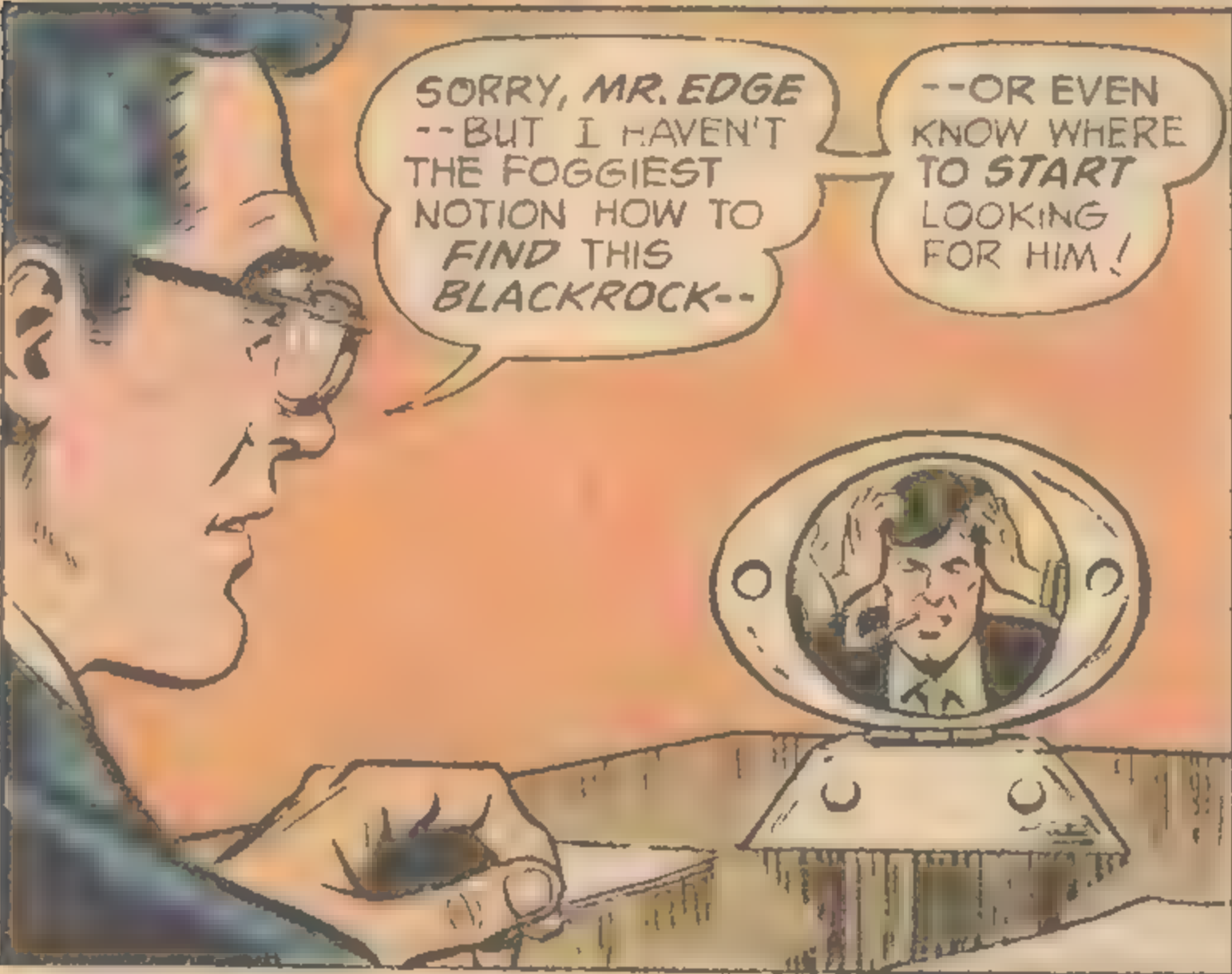
AND IN TWO OF THE CITY'S TOWERS SIT TWO OF THE NATION'S MOST POWERFUL MEN, BOTH WITH A SIMILAR PROBLEM...

WUBC RAN AN *EXCLUSIVE* INTERVIEW WITH THE *BLACKROCK* CHARACTER!

I CAN'T *BELIEVE* WE SLIPPED UP SO BADLY ON THAT ONE!

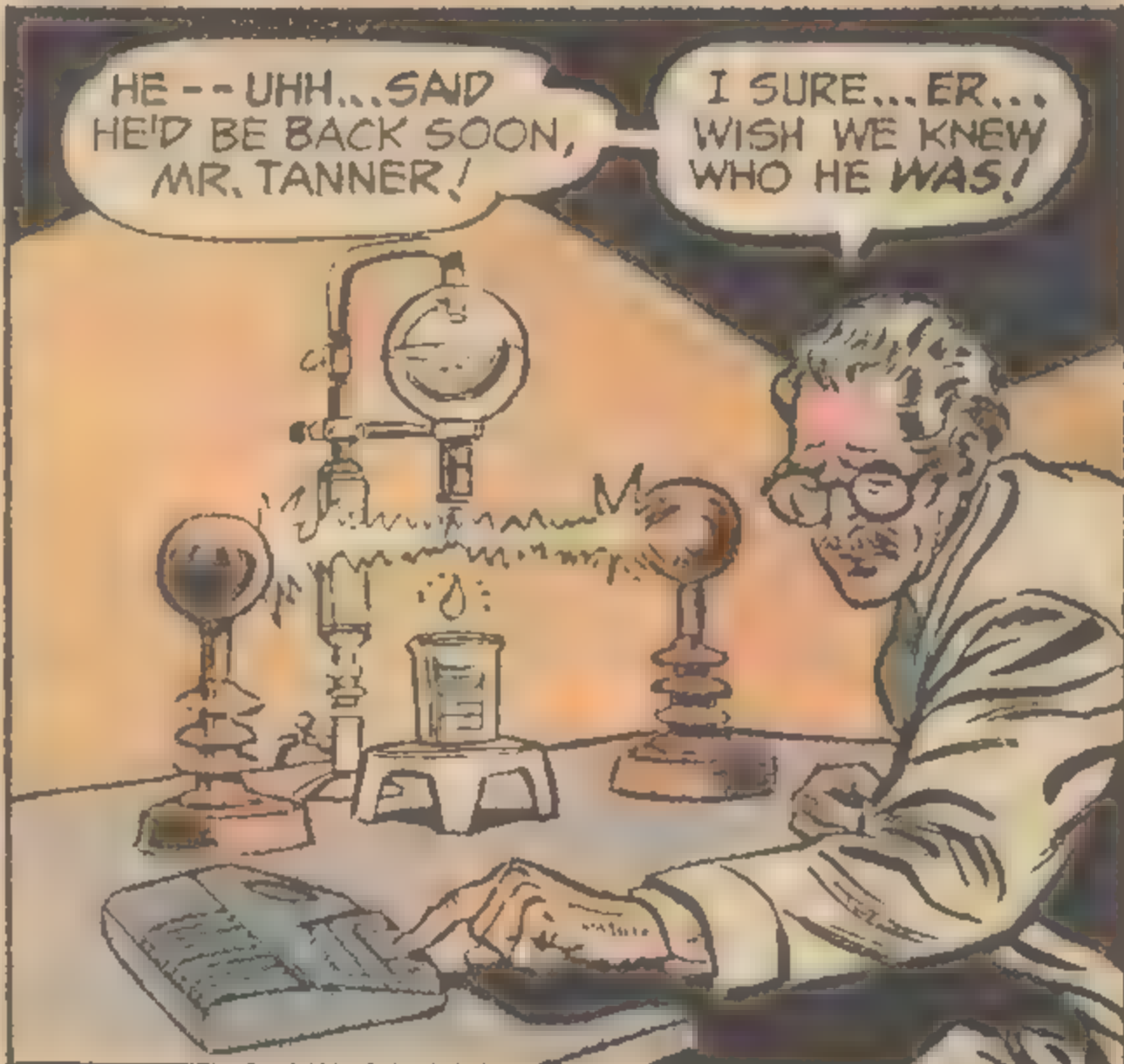
BLACKROCK'S THE BIGGEST BREAK OUR NEWS OFFICE HAS EVER HAD!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T CONTACT HIM, *SILVERSTONE*?



SORRY, MR. *EDGE* -- BUT I HAVEN'T THE FOGGIEST NOTION HOW TO FIND THIS *BLACKROCK*--

--OR EVEN KNOW WHERE TO *START* LOOKING FOR HIM!



HE -- UHH... SAID HE'D BE BACK SOON, MR. *TANNER*!

I SURE... ER... WISH WE KNEW WHO HE *WAS*!

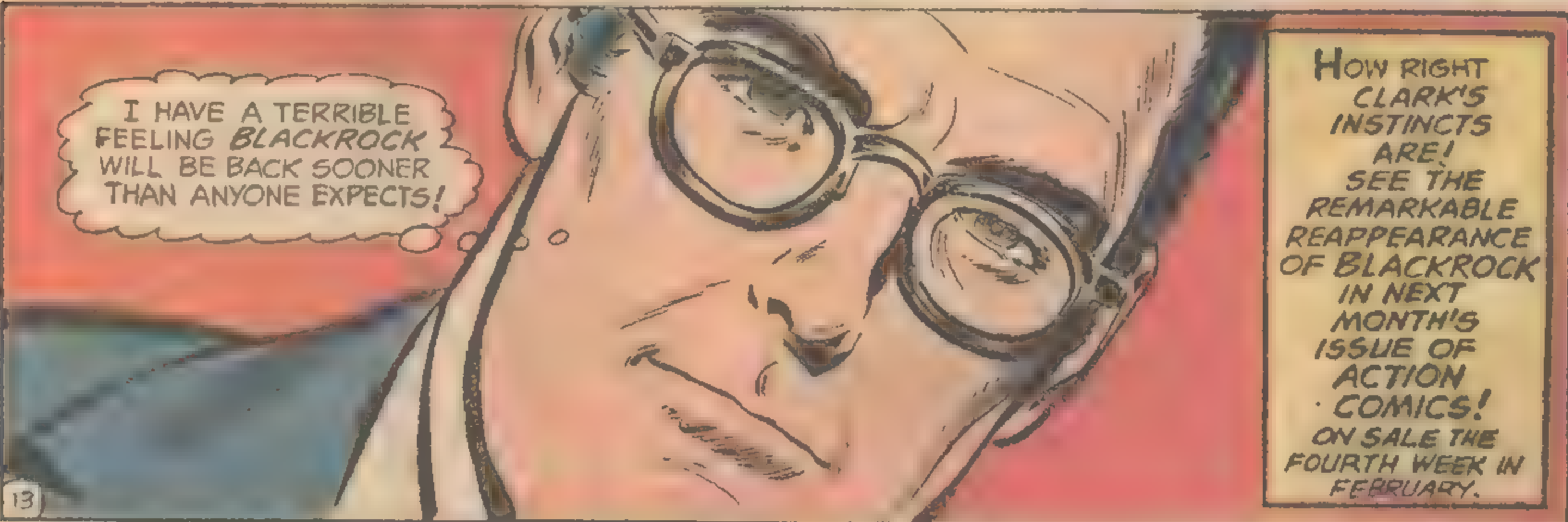


START LOOKING ON *WUBC-TV*, BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE *BLACKROCK* THERE AGAIN...

...UNLESS HE'S ON *WGBS-TV* FIRST!-- GOT THAT, *KENT*?

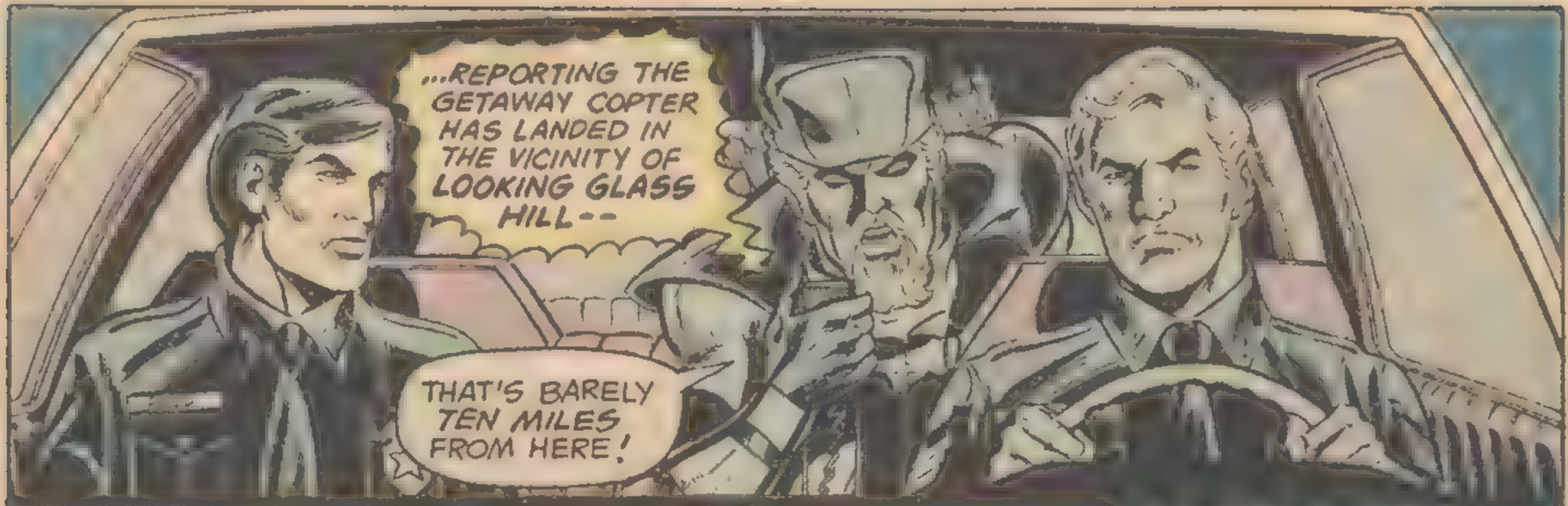


KEEP ME POSTED ON ANY LUCK IN FINDING HIM!-- GOT THAT, *SILVERSTONE*?



I HAVE A TERRIBLE FEELING *BLACKROCK* WILL BE BACK SOONER THAN ANYONE EXPECTS!

HOW RIGHT *CLARK'S* INSTINCTS ARE! SEE THE REMARKABLE REAPPEARANCE OF *BLACKROCK* IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF *ACTION COMICS*! ON SALE THE FOURTH WEEK IN FEBRUARY.



...REPORTING THE
GETAWAY COPTER
HAS LANDED IN
THE VICINITY OF
LOOKING GLASS
HILL--

THAT'S BARELY
TEN MILES
FROM HERE!



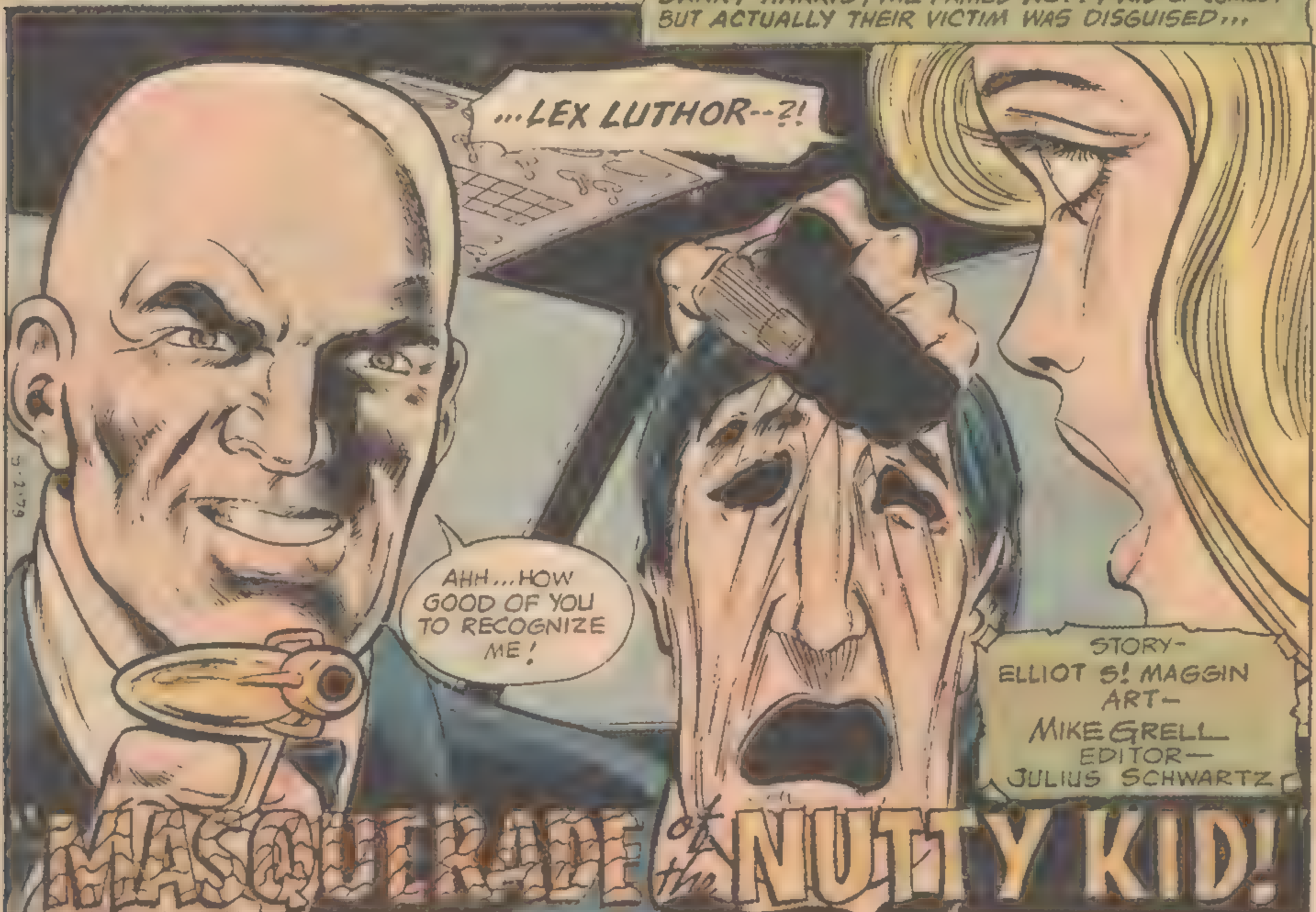
ISSUE AN
ALERT FOR AS
MANY PATROL
CARS AS POSSIBLE
TO GET UP
THERE--FAST!

COME ON, YOU GUYS--
I THINK A LITTLE
PEDAL-STOMPING
IS IN ORDER...

...IF NOT TO BAIL OUT
BLACK CANARY, THEN
TO GET THE KIDNAPPERS
OF THE NUTTY KID!

GREEN ARROW and BLACK CANARY

...HAVE INDEED RUN OFF ON THE TRAIL OF KIDNAPPERS
-- BUT WHAT ONLY BLACK CANARY KNOWS SO FAR IS
THAT THE KIDNAPPERS WERE MERELY A COVER!
THEY MADE EVERYONE BELIEVE THEY'D ABDUCTED
DANNY HARRIS, THE FAMED NUTTY KID OF COMEDY--
BUT ACTUALLY THEIR VICTIM WAS DISGUISED...



...LEX LUTHOR--?!

AHH...HOW
GOOD OF YOU
TO RECOGNIZE
ME!

STORY-
ELLIOT S! MAGGIN
ART-
MIKE GRELL
EDITOR-
JULIUS SCHWARTZ

MASQUERADE of the NUTTY KID!

WATCH CAREFULLY NOW--WE'VE GOT A LOT TO DO AND NOT MUCH TIME TO DO IT, AS LUTHOR MAKES CLEAR...

THE IDEA OF THIS ELABORATE CHARADE, GOOD LADY, IS TO ENGINEER A SITUATION WHERE EITHER YOU MURDER GREEN ARROW--

--OR HE KILLS YOU!

IT DOESN'T MUCH MATTER WHO EXECUTES WHOM, BUT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH YOU ARE THE LUCKY ONE-- THE KILLER!

KILLER?!
HOW DO YOU PROPOSE TO GET ME TO DO THAT?

IT'LL SEEM NATURAL--JUST AS IT'S SEEMED NATURAL FOR YOU NOT TO HAVE TRIED TO TEAR ME APART THESE PAST FEW MINUTES!

YOU'RE DOING NOTHING BUT STANDING CATCHING FLIES IN YOUR MOUTH BECAUSE OF THIS LITTLE BEAUTY!

THERE IS A LONG, COMPLICATED NAME FOR IT YOU WON'T REMEMBER-- SO YOU CAN JUST CALL IT MY HYPNO-BEAM!

CATCHY, ISN'T IT?

YOU--YOU'VE ALREADY HYPNOTIZED ME INTO...INTO WANTING TO KILL GREEN ARROW--?!

--THE ARCHER WILL BE THE FIRST TO REACH US! YOUR PSYCHE WILL DOUBTLESS BE KIND TO HIM...

... A GOOD QUICK HEEL IN HIS THROAT SHOULD SUFFICE!

LUTHOR'S RIGHT...

THAT ABOUT SUMS IT UP, MY DEAR! I TRUST THAT OF ALL THE INTREPID LAW-ENFORCERS HUNTING US DOWN--

I...CAN'T BRING MYSELF... EVEN TO RAISE A HAND AGAINST HIM!

IF HIS MENTAL COMMAND TO KILL OLIVER IS AS STRONG... HEAVEN HELP US BOTH!

AS THE INFAMOUS RENEGADE SCIENTIST PRATTLES ON, THE HYPNOTIZED HEROINE ASSUMES AN ODD POSE...

THE POLICE SHOULD ARRIVE SOON AFTER YOUR GREEN FRIEND TO PICK YOU UP...

...AS WELL AS MY EMPLOYEES, WHO WILL RECEIVE TRIPLE PAY FOR THE TIME THEY SPEND IN PRISON!

AS FOR MY "KIDNAP" VICTIM, DANNY HARRIS THE COMIC, HE WILL REAPPEAR SOON ENOUGH!

GUHH!

SHE ATTACKED ME...AGAINST THE COMMAND OF MY MENTAL DEVICE?!

HOW IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM--?

I'M SUCH A FOOL! I DIDN'T TAKE INTO ACCOUNT HER MENTAL TRAINING IN THE MARTIAL ARTS!

THROUGH SHEER MEDITATION, SHE CAN HYPNOTIZE HERSELF--

--HYPNOTIZE HERSELF INTO SEEING ME AS GREEN ARROW TO GET AROUND MY COMMAND TO HER!

WHICH MEANS SHE'S NOW FORCED TO KILL ME!

AND PUFFING UP A DIRT ROAD AT THE BASE OF LOOKING GLASS HILL...

CAN'T YOU GUYS MOVE THIS TUB ANY FASTER?

QUESTION IS WHETHER WE CAN MOVE IT AT ALL! THIS ROAD LOOKS LIKE IT'S BUILT FOR MOUNTAIN GOATS!

HAVE A SUPER YEAR!



AND SEE IT AT A GLANCE
WITH YOUR OWN

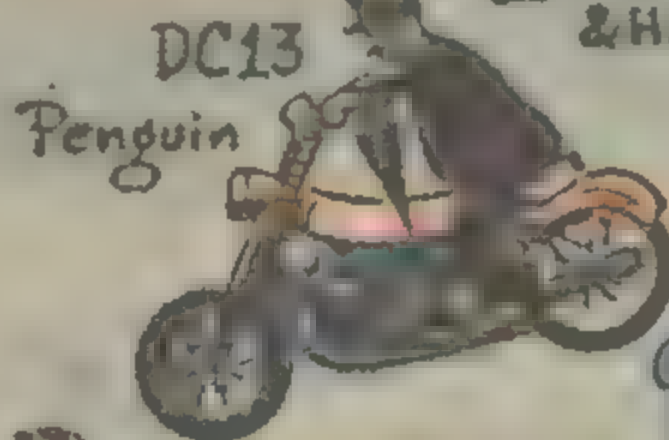
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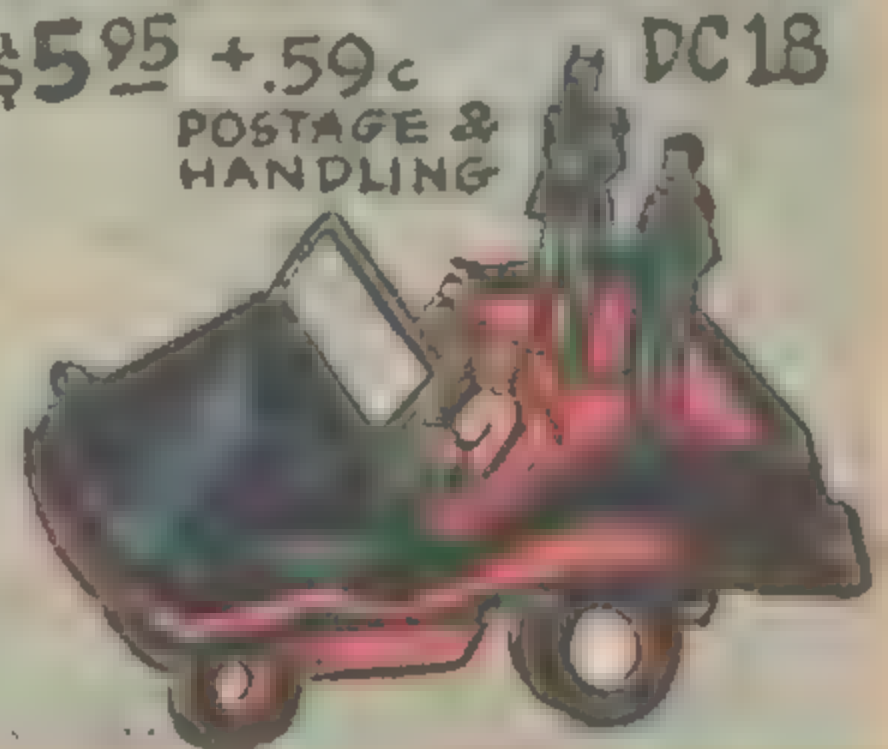
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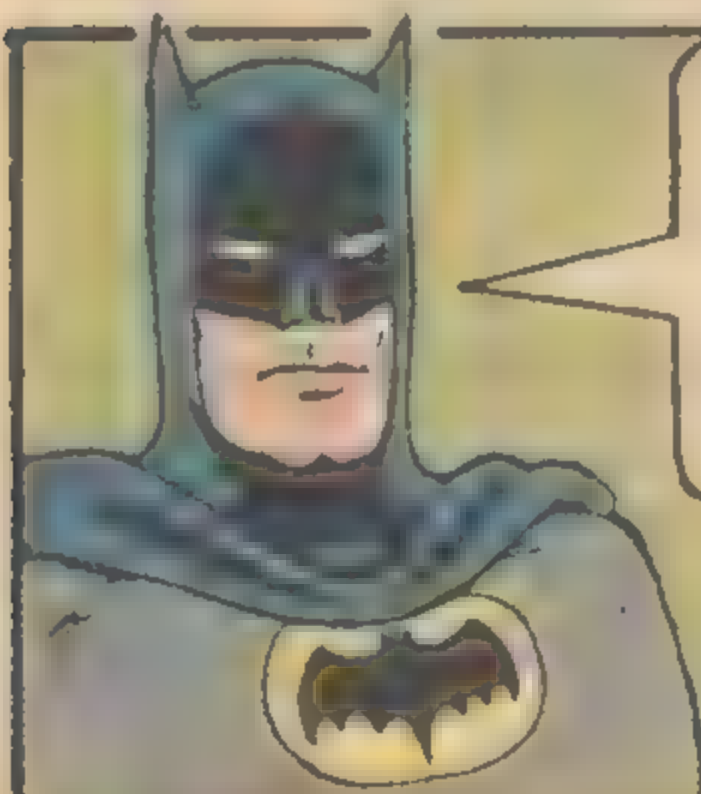
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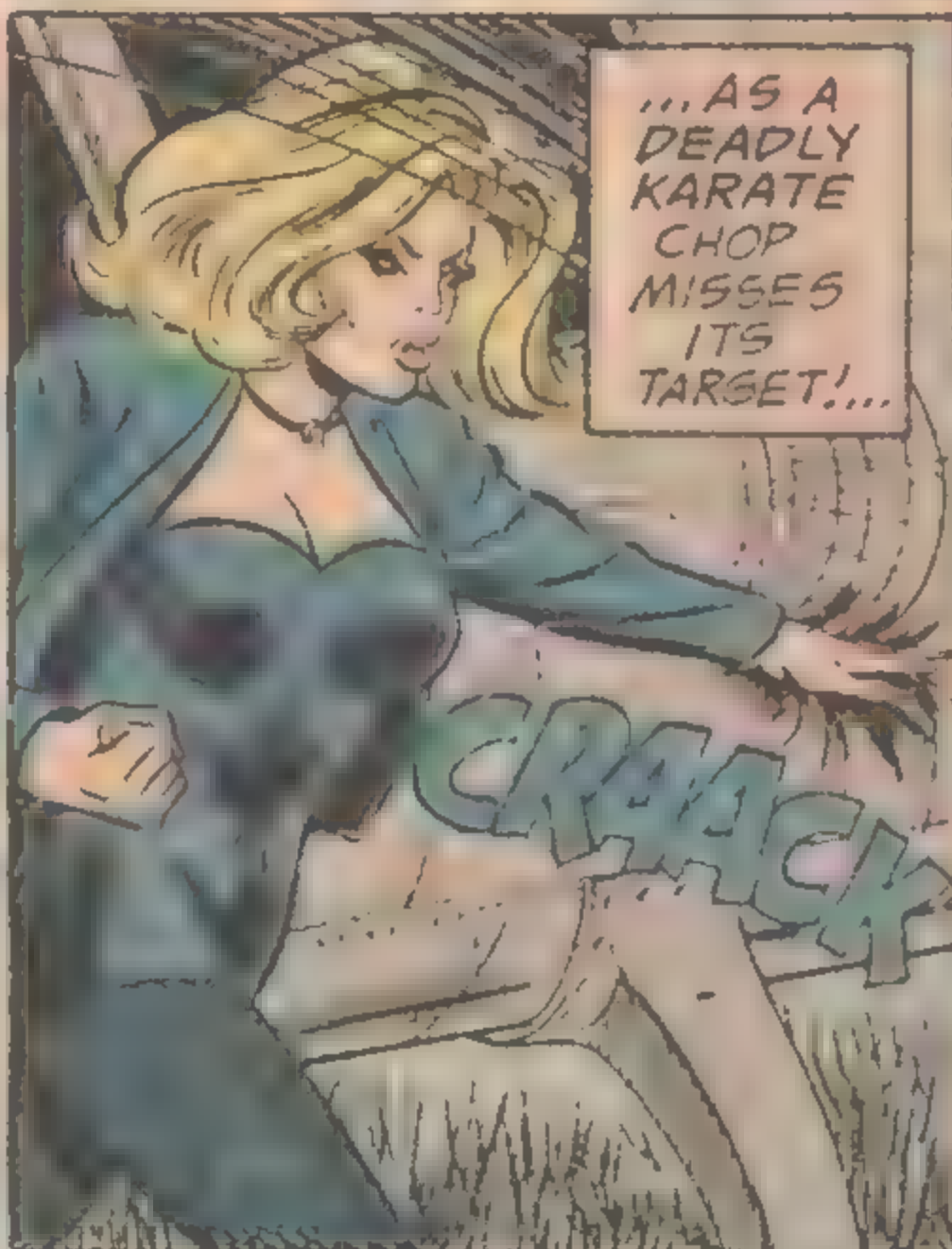
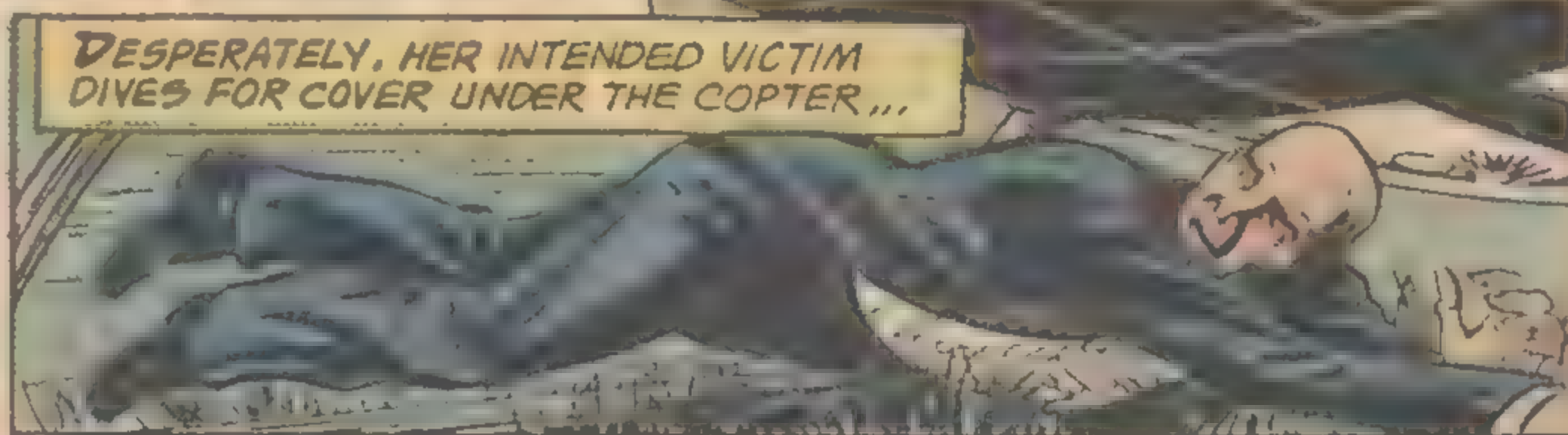
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BUT LUTHOR'S PLAN CRUMBLES AROUND HIM AS HE FLEES THE FIRE-EYED, ENTRANCED HEROINE, AND STRIVES TO CATCH HIS BREATH LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE AN ESCAPE...



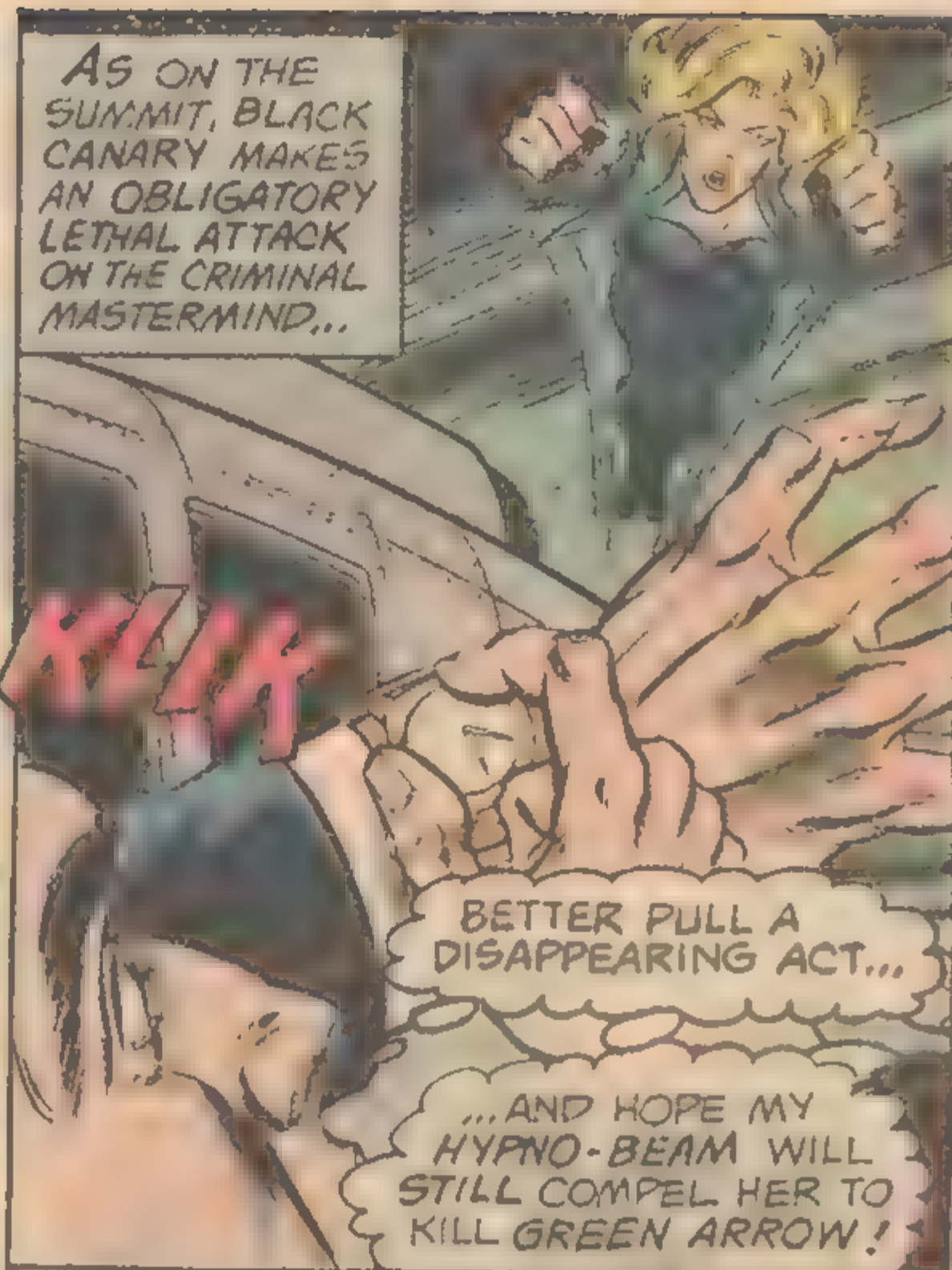


AND AT A PATROL CAR THAT IS STALLED ON A STEEP OVERGROWN UPGRADE...

G.A.! IT'D TAKE A HELICOPTER TO GET UP THAT HILL!

HOW DO YOU THINK THE KIDNAPPERS GOT THERE-- BY CAMEL?

SEE YOU AROUND--



AS ON THE SUMMIT, BLACK CANARY MAKES AN OBLIGATORY LETHAL ATTACK ON THE CRIMINAL MASTERMIND...

KLIK

BETTER PULL A DISAPPEARING ACT...

...AND HOPE MY HYPNO-BEAM WILL STILL COMPEL HER TO KILL GREEN ARROW!



ODD! HE'S GONE...

...AND SO IS MY COMPULSION TO KILL HIM!

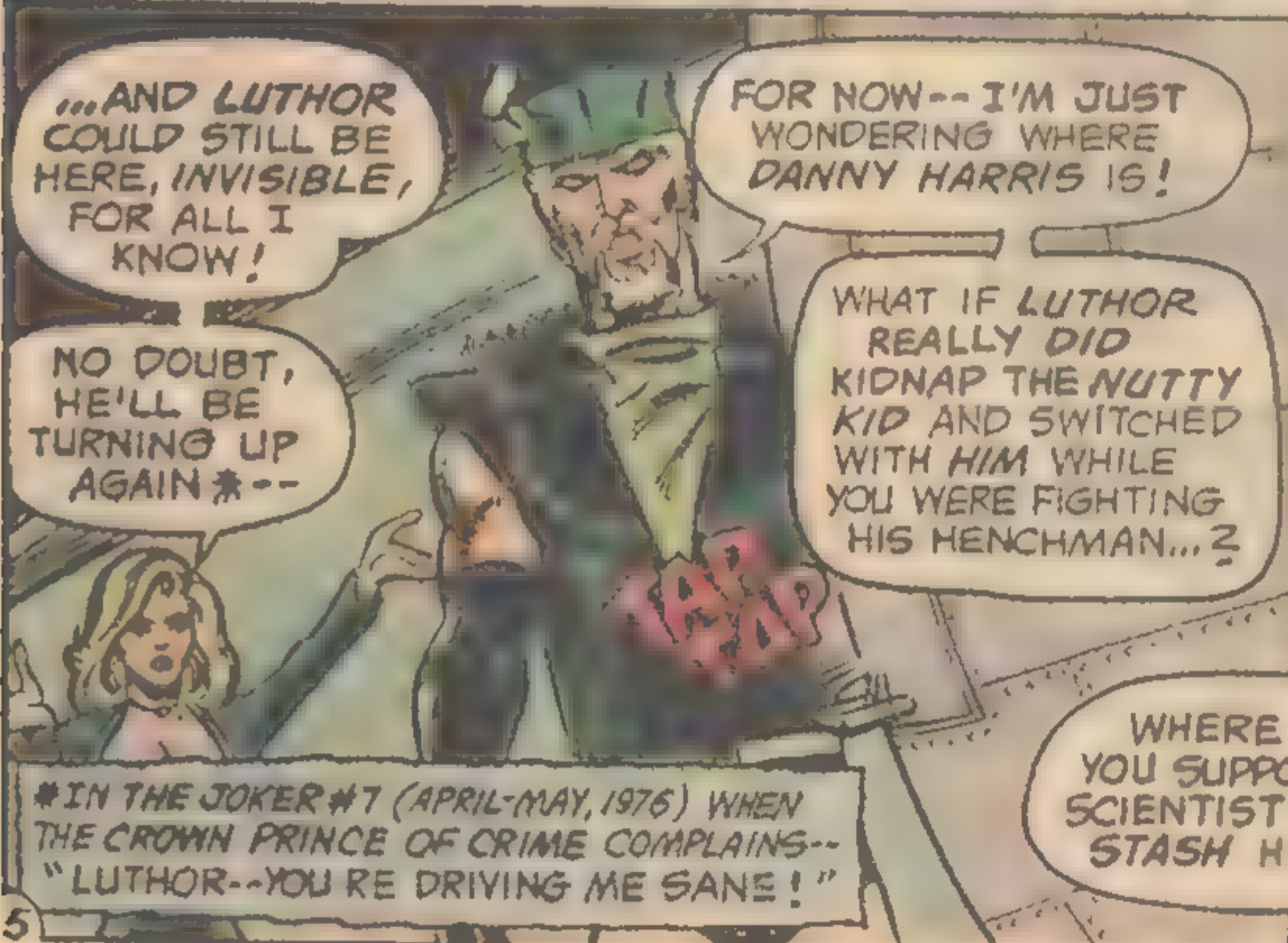
AND AS THE STARTLED HEROINE HEARS A FAMILIAR VOICE OVER HER SHOULDER...



DINAH!



...SHE WONDER'S WHETHER THEIR MEETING WILL TURN INTO A CATASTROPHE--NOW...OR LATER...



...AND LUTHOR COULD STILL BE HERE, INVISIBLE, FOR ALL I KNOW!

NO DOUBT, HE'LL BE TURNING UP AGAIN--

FOR NOW-- I'M JUST WONDERING WHERE DANNY HARRIS IS!

WHAT IF LUTHOR REALLY DID KIDNAP THE NUTTY KID AND SWITCHED WITH HIM WHILE YOU WERE FIGHTING HIS HENCHMAN...?

WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE THE SCIENTIST WOULD STASH HIM--?

*IN THE JOKER #7 (APRIL-MAY, 1976) WHEN THE CROWN PRINCE OF CRIME COMPLAINS-- "LUTHOR--YOU'RE DRIVING ME SANE!"



HI THERE, PEOPLE-- A FUNNY THING HAPPENED TO ME ON THE WAY TO THE STUDIO...



c/o NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019.

Gentlemen:

What can one say about "Superman's Energy Crisis (Action #454)?"

Well, one can start out by saying it was nice to see the new, improved Toyman. One could say that even if one realizes any baddie could have served the purpose just as well.

One could also mention the fact that the "hybrid metal" which was the real villain was defeated in only four panels. Eight if you want to count the introduction of the Human Solar Battery suit. My, the resources of S.T.A.R. must be something to run that up so quickly ... can I get one in size 40 regular?

I guess I should acknowledge that we were given a hint of what was to come by the scientist at the fund-raising dinner. But can you raise money at a dinner that was by invitation only?

One could say all the above, but really—forget it. The character was the thing. Clark (Superman) Kent (always wanted to write it like that) falling asleep, eating all the chicken, and finally, at MacTavish's, devouring over one billion hamburgers ... I got so engrossed I spilled some special sauce on the page!

The Atom ("The Campus That Swallowed Itself")? Not really bad, but a reworking of the previous issue's story.

Kerry P. Wagener, New Orleans, La.
(Sure, you can raise money at a dinner by invitation only—provided you invite the right people. For instance, Bruce Wayne would be a better prospect than Ollie Queen—E.N.B.)

.....

E. Nelson:

This letter is written in the hope that the situation discussed herein can be explained. On page 8 of "Superman's Energy Crisis", Supes saves a hamburger restaurant from a falling tree. On the building is a sign reading "Over 9 billion sold!"

Supes then proceeds into the building and eats, as one customer comments, "about 60

hamburgers a minute." Well, the next day, Clark Kent visits the same building, and the sign is there, only with the 9 changed to a 10—meaning one billion burgers have been sold since the previous day.

OK, this means that for Superman to eat even half a billion hamburgers (everyone else was really hungry that day, right?), it would take him 15.854894 years. Comics have been known to skip around in time a bit, but this is ridiculous. Thank you for letting me speak my mind.

Chris G. Arnott, Winchester, Mass.

(Yes, it can be explained. The sign said that OVER 9 billion had been sold—in other words, LESS than ten billion! There might have been only a thousand or so to go before the ten billion mark was reached—which means SUPERMAN didn't get quite as many as you—and Kerry Wagener—thought.—E.N.B.)

.....

Dear Mr. Bridwell:

I have a number of comments on Action #454, some bad, mostly good.

"Superman's Energy Crisis" was one of the best I've seen. I nearly died laughing when Clark fell asleep on camera. (And I thought only Shazam had comedy!) My hat comes off to Cary Bates. One thing in the story puzzled me, though. If Supie was all that tired, why did he fly around at super-speed when all he had to do was catch the tree and set it where it wouldn't hit McDon—er, I mean MacTavish's? (By the way, the clown in the window looked like The Joker!)

The artwork was fantastic on both Supie's and The Atom's stories. Curt Swan was great as usual, but I had never seen any of Jose Delbo's stuff. With this sampling, I'd say Delbo is here to stay.

Scott Yohonis, Royal Oak, Mich.

(SUPES was awfully tired—and when you're that bushed, you don't always think too clearly. That could explain the MAN OF STEEL's lapse.—E. NELSON BRIDWELL)

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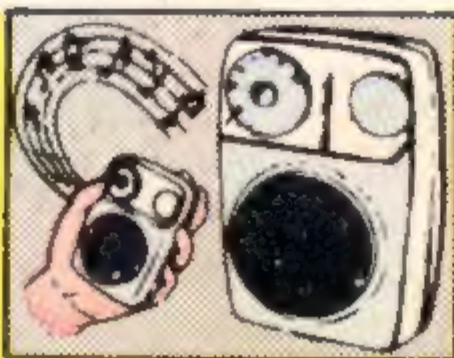
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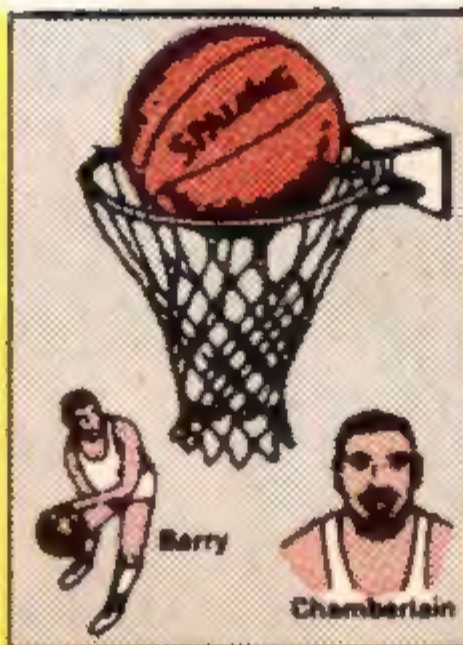
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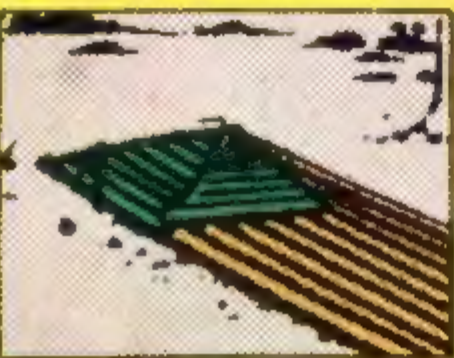
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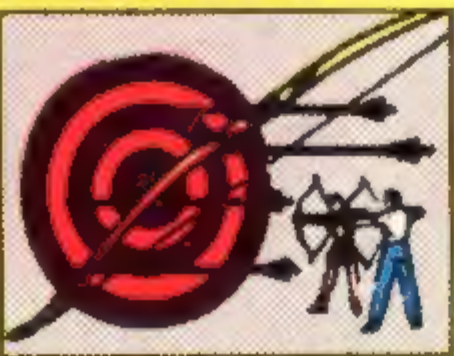
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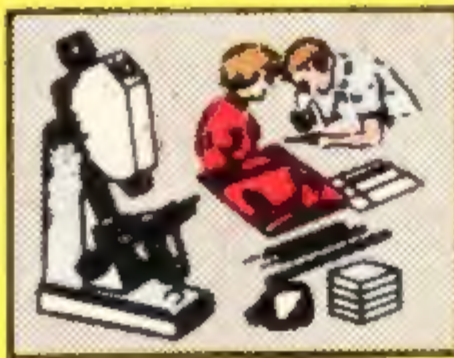
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